April 25, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Majority Leader Speaker

United States Senate U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy

Minority Leader Minority Leader

United States Senate U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

We write to you to express our support for bipartisan legislation to rein in Big Tech and urge you to pass these bills in the House and Senate without delay. If enacted, they will mark a major step forward in restoring competitive markets. They will help unlock the potential of Americans to grow successful businesses and build an economy that is more prosperous, equitable, and innovative. Furthermore, they represent our first opportunity in decades to rein in the runaway power of the biggest, wealthiest, and least accountable corporations in the world.

These bipartisan bills reflect the culmination of a two-year <u>investigation</u> into the abuses of Big Tech. Led by Chairs David Cicilline and Jerrold Nadler, and Ranking Member Ken Buck, the investigation included 10 hearings, 240 interviews, 1.3 million documents, and a historic 450-page report. There was testimony from dozens of experts and representatives from the corporations themselves, including the CEOs, Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, Tim Cook, and Sundar Pichai. In addition, the Senate Antitrust Subcommittee, led by Senator Klobuchar with the support of Senators Grassley and Blumenthal, conducted 10 hearings studying the impact of monopoly power of Big Tech on consumers and other market participants.

American Innovation and Choice Online Act (S.2992/H.R.3816): This bill will promote innovation and competition by prohibiting dominant Big Tech platforms from anticompetitive discrimination, self-preferencing, and excluding competitors to protect their monopolies and leverage them into other lines of business. This will ensure that small businesses get a fair shot to compete, innovators get to develop new products without fear of being crushed by Big Tech, and consumers get more choice and quality on the platforms.

Open App Markets Act (S.2710/H.R.7030): This bill will promote competition on large app stores to increase choice, improve quality, and reduce costs for consumers by preventing the big app stores from using gatekeeping power to require app developers to use a specific in-app payment system or from unfairly promoting their own apps above those of competing app developers. This will mean app developers will be able to stop paying huge fees to Big Tech and compete on the app stores, and app users will be able to pay less for apps.

America has a monopoly problem, and the Big Tech monopolies have made it impossible to live and work without using their products. Monopoly power lowers wages, reduces innovation and entrepreneurship, exacerbates income and regional inequality, undermines the free press and access to information, and perpetuates toxic systems of racial, gender, and class dominance. Big Tech monopolies are at the center of many of these problems. Reining in these companies is an essential first step to reverse the damage of concentrated corporate power throughout our economy. These bipartisan bills will do just that, and it is imperative that they are enacted into law urgently.

Americans support taking action against these companies. Recent polling <u>found</u> that 86% percent of Democrats, 83% of Republicans and 79% percent of independents in California believe that Big Tech companies should be held accountable through tougher laws to keep markets competitive. In addition, 8 in 10 New York voters <u>support</u> strengthening or passing new laws to hold Big Tech accountable and keep the internet safe and competitive.

We believe that these carefully crafted bills will bring urgently needed change and accountability to the Big Tech companies and an industry that most Americans agree must be reined in. We are proud to support this important legislation, urge you to bring the American Innovation and Choice Online Act (S.2992/H.R.3816) and the Open App Markets Act (S.2710/H.R.7030) to a vote as soon as possible, and encourage all members of Congress to vote to pass both bills.

Sincerely,

Fight for the Future

Economic Security Project Action Accountable Tech ALIGN American Booksellers Association American Family Voices Artist Rights Alliance Athena **Broward for Progress** Build Back Better USA Center for American Progress Center for Common Ground Center for Digital Democracy Center for Popular Democracy Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws CommonDefense.us Consumer Federation of America Consumer Reports **Demand Progress Democratic Messaging Project** Demos Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC) Indivisible Burbank Media City

Indivisible New Rochelle

Indivisible Northern Nevada

Indivisible Ulster

Indivisible Westchester

Indivisible Westchester District 6&7

IndivisibleWeStand UWS

Institute for Local Self-Reliance

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Jobs With Justice

Main Street Alliance

Media Alliance

National Employment Law Project

New York Communities for Change

NYCD16-Indivisible

Open Markets Institute

Our Revolution

People's Parity Project

Progressive Change Campaign Committee

Progressive Democrats of America

Public Citizen

Public Knowledge

Ranking Digital Rights

RootsAction.org

Service Employees International Union

Strategic Organizing Center

Surveillance Technology Oversight Project

The Democratic Coalition

The Tech Oversight Project

The Tor Project

UltraViolet Action

Upper East Side for Change

Venice Resistance

Warehouse Workers for Justice

Westchester United

Writers Guild of America-West