

June 18, 2020

The Honorable David Cicilline
Chairman
House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust,
Commercial and Administrative Law
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust,
Commercial and Administrative Law
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Cicilline, Ranking Member Sensenbrenner, Chairman Nadler, and Ranking Member Jordan:

We write in regard to your investigation into the business practices of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google have on our small businesses, entrepreneurs, workers, communities, and our economy as well as the legal underpinnings of the markets in which they operate. Your oversight hearings and any subsequent report will be critical tools for understanding how, where, and whether to act to protect Americans from monopolies in the digital age.

We encourage you to use all necessary tools – including subpoenas if necessary – to compel the production of vital information from these large and important institutions. Moreover, we believe that the CEOs and decision-makers of these corporations should testify and participate in this vital fact-finding mission, and that you should use any necessary measure to secure their cooperation.

The Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law is the heir to a great tradition of oversight over questions of corporate control. Chairman Emanuel Celler used it in a series of hearings in the 1950s and 1960s to understand problems across our economy, in everything from the production of war material to the supply of newsprint.

Your investigations into the technology sector are part of this tradition, and we applaud the work that you have done so far and the bipartisan manner in which you have done it. The successful completion of this work, through obtaining all necessary documents and testimony, is critical.

Sincerely,

Sarah Miller, Executive Director, American Economic Liberties Project
Mike Davis, Founder and President, Internet Accountability Project (IAP)

Cc: Speaker Nancy Pelosi
Members of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law