

Hon. Jim Jordan, Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
2138 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan:

We write to you today as a group of conservatives deeply committed to preserving the principles of free speech, fair competition, and the protection of American values in the digital age. As the [US v. Google antitrust case](#) proceeds, the public is learning a great deal about Google's methods for maintaining its monopoly.

Several of the newly disclosed facts arising from the trial warrant further investigation, and we write to urge you to convene a House Judiciary Committee hearing around them.

The case has uncovered "lucrative, closed-door dealings between two of the world's most powerful tech companies" – revealing that Google [pays Apple \\$26 billion](#) a year to be the default search engine on Apple products. This underlines that giant tech corporations are colluding with each other to undermine the free market and fair competition - the underpinnings of our American economy.

As you may be aware, TikTok, the social platform owned by Chinese company ByteDance, is [currently testing a search partnership](#) with Google, a noteworthy development in the way people search online. Within the TikTok app, some searches now display an option to [search the same request on Google](#). This redirection leads users to an in-app browser featuring Google's search results for the query.

This partnership between Google and TikTok is deeply concerning as it threatens core principles of the free market and the individual freedom and privacy of everyday Americans. If unchecked, Google will consolidate more market share and TikTok could potentially [tap into a wealth of data](#) about its users' search and browsing habits. This would compromise data privacy, an issue Google has historically mishandled, having to pay a record \$170 million to settle alleged [violations of children's privacy law](#) in 2019.

For too long, Big Tech companies have [silenced Americans](#) while cozying up to the Chinese communist regime and must be held accountable by Congress and our laws. Google helped the Chinese government [conduct mass surveillance](#) on its citizens; there are multiple reports that TikTok itself has engaged in [pro-China content moderation](#). Not to mention the [close ties](#) between TikTok's parent company, ByteDance, and the Chinese authoritarian regime. The

implications of how TikTok intends to use Americans' data and its arrangements with Google are cause for an immediate investigation.

Given the potential consequences of this development, we urgently request that you convene a hearing to examine this new partnership between TikTok and Google, as well as other ways that Big Tech companies are undermining Americans' privacy, national security, and the free market.

Our aim is to ensure that American values, including free-market competition, free speech, and the protection of our national interests, are upheld as our digital landscape evolves. Your leadership and dedication to these principles make us confident that by convening a hearing on this matter, you can play a pivotal role in shedding light on these critical issues and working towards meaningful solutions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kara Fredrick,
Heritage Foundation
Director of Tech Policy

Mike Davis
Internet Accountability Project
President

Jon Schweppe
American Principles Project
Policy Director

Aiden Buzzetti
Bull Moose Project
President