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**Comments of Koustubh “K.J.” Bagchi
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Federal Trade Commission | July 1, 2021 Open Meeting
Response to “Statement of Enforcement Principles Regarding ‘Unfair Methods of
Competition’ Under Section 5 of the FTC Act”**

The Chamber of Progress appreciates the opportunity to submit written comments in response to the Federal Trade Commission’s July 1, 2021 agenda. Specifically, we seek to respond to the agenda item entitled, “*Statement of Enforcement Principles Regarding ‘Unfair Methods of Competition’ Under Section 5 of the FTC Act*” (2015).

The Chamber of Progress is a new tech industry coalition devoted to a progressive society, economy, workforce, and consumer climate. Our organization works to ensure that all Americans benefit from technological leaps, and that the tech industry operates responsibly and fairly.

Most technology company leaders want to ensure that they use their power responsibly and fairly -- towards consumers, workers, and other companies. The government has a critical role to play in ensuring companies operate fairly, and Section 5's of the FTC Act is a critical tool for doing so.

The FTC’s 2015 bipartisan policy statement provides companies with important guidance to ensure their own fair behavior; it sheds deeper light on what the FTC will consider fair and unfair behavior. And that in turn helps companies operate responsibly.

It is certainly within the Commission’s purview to update its 2015 policy statement to include new advice to companies. In fact, technological advances since 2015 have posed new challenges that an updated policy statement could address. But in simply revoking the 2015 statement, and leaving nothing in its place, technology companies will have less overall guidance from the Commission on how to operate fairly and responsibly.

Given the level of scrutiny the tech industry currently faces from regulators and the public, clear guidelines around the application of Section 5 should be public and transparent. It’s important for regulators and regulated companies to understand the same rules and act in good faith according to those rules.

Consumers want companies to play fair -- and companies want that too. The 2015 guidance has been a critical tool to ensure fair corporation behavior, and we encourage the FTC to amend rather than revoke its guidance.