

April 9, 2021

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Chair The Honorable Roger F. Wicker, Ranking Member U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Hart Senate Office Building 420 A Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell, Ranking Member Wicker and members of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee,

On behalf of U.S. PIRG and our tens of thousands of members across the country, we are writing to express our support for the nomination of Lina Khan to the position of FTC Commissioner, and to urge your support for her confirmation.

As an organization that stands up to powerful special interests to advocate for consumers, we are thrilled that such an accomplished public interest champion is being put forward to join the FTC. There are many important consumer protection issues facing the FTC. We believe Ms. Khan's expertise and experience as a leading voice in antitrust will be a great asset to the FTC at this critical moment.

Lina Khan's leadership and rigor as an investigator was evidenced in the groundbreaking, bipartisan House Judiciary inquiry into Big Tech competition and monopoly issues. From companies undermining our ability to fix our own devices, to undermining competition in the digital marketplace, to overly-consolidated firms undermining farmers and producers, we know we have problems to fix in terms of competition and antitrust. We believe Ms. Khan is willing and capable to hold Big Tech accountable, delivering results for farmers, consumers and nascent competitors who are being squeezed by overly concentrated markets.

U.S. PIRG rarely weighs in on presidential nominees. However, we believe that it is important in this case to support Ms. Khan. The FTC has waned in its relevance as a watchdog to protect small farmers, main street businesses and consumers. We believe that there is no better choice to help restore the FTC to that role than Lina Khan.

Sincerely,

Faye Park President, U.S. PIRG

Edmund Mierzwinski Senior Director, Federal Consumer Program

Nathan Proctor National Campaign Director, Right to Repair