

Mr. Ronald Klain
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Mr. Jeffrey Zients
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Mr. Bruce Reed
White House Deputy Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

January 27, 2023

Dear White House Chief of Staff Klain, incoming White House Chief of Staff Zients, and White House Deputy Chief of Staff Reed,

We write to you as a broad coalition of advocacy groups committed to reining in monopoly power. As Special Assistant to the President for Technology and Competition Policy, Tim Wu played a crucial role in advancing the Biden Administration's efforts to reinvigorate competition.¹ Given that Wu has departed the Administration, we urge that any individuals appointed to the National Economic Council (NEC) to work on these issues moving forward have similar track records and a history of demonstrating firm commitments to anti-monopoly policy.

In December 2022, *Bloomberg* reported that the Administration intends to appoint additional advisors within the NEC to work on competition-related matters.² As you know, the NEC has played a central role in tech and competition-related policy development within the Administration. During his tenure on the NEC, Wu notably helped author the historic 2021 Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy ("Executive Order on Competition").³

We urge the Administration to appoint individuals who understand that under-enforcement of

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/30/technology/tim-wu-leaves-white-house.html>

² <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-12-30/biden-antitrust-adviser-tim-wu-to-leave-white-house>

³ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-man-behind-bidens-push-to-promote-business-competition-11625851555>

anti-monopoly law over the past few decades has contributed to the present crisis of corporate concentration. With both the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Department of Justice (DOJ) working diligently to ramp up antitrust enforcement,⁴ thanks in large part to your selection of hard-charging antitrust enforcers Lina Khan and Jonathan Kanter, it is crucial that the NEC is staffed with individuals who will help coordinate the Biden Administration's approach to competition.

As Wu himself has noted, an overwhelming majority of Americans support the government taking a strong approach to curbing monopoly power.⁵ The selection of personnel firmly committed to revitalizing antitrust enforcement will allow the White House to reaffirm its support for popular pro-competition policies.

Sincerely,

⁴ <https://www.law.com/newyorklawjournal/2022/10/07/khan-and-kanter-show-no-signs-of-slowng-antitrust-enforcement/>

⁵ <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/biden-antitrust-advisor-tim-wu-says-a-supermajority-of-american-citizens-support-crackdown-on-monopolies-11636478183>

Sincerely,

18 Million Rising

ALIGN

American Economic Liberties Project

Americans for Financial Reform Education Fund
atAdvocacy

Athena

Better Organizing to Win Legalization

Blue Future

Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment

Center for Digital Democracy

Demand Progress Education Fund

Democracy for America Advocacy Fund

Farm Action

The Freedom BLOC

Future of Music Coalition

Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Main Street Alliance

Media Alliance

Muslim Advocates

National Consumers League

New America's Open Technology Institute

Open Markets Institute

OpenMedia

The Other 98%

Our Revolution

Oxfam America

P Street

People's Parity Project

Progress America

Project Blueprint

Public Citizen

Public Knowledge

Revolving Door Project

RootsAction.org

Social Security Works

TakeItBack.Org

UltraViolet Action

The Utility Reform Network

X-Lab

