

PREPARED STATEMENT OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
Hearing on Compliance with Committee Oversight
Before the
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESPONSIVENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO
OVERSIGHT
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.
November 30, 2023

Chairman Cline, Ranking Member Swalwell, and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am Jeanne Bumpus, Director of the Office of Congressional Relations, of the Federal Trade Commission (“Commission” or “FTC”).¹ Thank you for the opportunity to address the FTC’s responses to requests from the Committee on the Judiciary (“Committee”) since the beginning of the 118th Congress.

The FTC is the only federal agency with the broad mission of both protecting consumers and maintaining competition in most sectors of the economy. Its jurisdiction includes privacy and data security, consumer fraud, and anticompetitive mergers and conduct in the pharmaceutical, defense, technology, hospital, retail food, and other sectors that affect every American every day. The FTC’s 1200 public servants work tirelessly every day to meet this broad and critical mission.

The FTC is committed to accommodating the Committee’s requests for information, consistent with our obligation to safeguard the independence, integrity, and effectiveness of the Commission’s vital work. Since I last testified before the Subcommittee in March, the Commission has established its clear responsiveness to House Judiciary Committee’s wide range and unprecedented number of oversight requests. Specifically, the Commission has received 15 letters with 76 specific requests from the Judiciary Committee, and we have responded with 29 letters, 20 productions, five transcribed interviews, a non-public briefing, hearing testimony, and over 8,500 pages of documents. These are just some of the House oversight requests that the Commission is currently responding to. In this calendar year alone, the FTC has received a total

¹ This written statement presents the view of the Federal Trade Commission. The oral statement and responses to questions reflect my own views and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission or any Commissioner.

of 25 letters with 133 specific requests from House committees, and we have responded with 46 letters, 33 productions, and over 12,000 pages of documents.

These responses are in addition to providing information to Congress as a regular part of what we do each day. The FTC works with Members and Committees to provide them with expert, thoughtful, and timely information, irrespective of party or position. The FTC devotes significant time and resources to supporting Congress's needs for information, working with Bureaus and Offices across the agency to respond to requests. Commission officials and subject matter experts are in constant communication with Members and congressional staff. In this year alone, FTC staff have provided technical assistance on over 100 proposed bills; responded to over 80 Congressional letters; provided approximately 15 nonpublic and over 80 public briefings about our programs and operations; and assisted with constituent services and outreach efforts aimed at helping consumers avoid fraud. The Commission is eager to continue to share our work and collaborate with Congress to improve and enhance our service to the American people.

In conclusion, I emphasize again that the FTC recognizes that congressional oversight is an important part of our system of government. The Commission remains committed to working with Congress in good faith, consistent with longstanding Commission policy. We look forward to engaging with your staff to continue to produce responsive materials to meet the Committee's oversight requests while ensuring the FTC can continue to protect the independence, integrity, and effectiveness of the Commission's law enforcement efforts and core agency processes. The FTC stands ready to continue its longstanding efforts to work with Congress, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.