



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

**Statement of Commissioners Noah Joshua Phillips and Christine S. Wilson  
Regarding the Commission's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request to Congress**

March 28, 2022

We are proud of the substantial benefits that the Federal Trade Commission delivers to America's consumers. Thanks to the tireless efforts of dedicated FTC staff, the Commission has long delivered an excellent return on investment for American taxpayers, effectively deploying both the legal and financial resources vested in us by Congress.

In recent fiscal cycles, Congress has provided the Commission with substantial additional resources—an increase of more than 20% in the agency's budget in just the last three years. President Biden proposes to increase the FTC's budget by an additional 30% in just one year. But under current leadership, the enforcement productivity of the agency has declined substantially,<sup>1</sup> despite the congressional largesse already granted to us. We believe that unfounded policy and implementation choices, not any change in the commitment of our diligent staff, are driving those results.

The accompanying Congressional Budget Justification provides no roadmap for effectively deploying the dramatic increase in resources it purports to justify, and no assurance that the agency will abandon its present course of deviating from sound legal precedent and the Commission's established jurisdiction.

For these reasons, we cannot embrace this budget request.

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Remarks of Christine S. Wilson, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission, at the Mercatus Antitrust Forum: One Year of Biden Antitrust, *Governing is Hard: Antitrust Enforcement in the First Year of the Biden Administration* (Jan. 26, 2022), [https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public\\_statements/1600479/governing\\_is\\_hard\\_antitrust\\_enforcement\\_in\\_the\\_first\\_year\\_of\\_the\\_biden\\_administration\\_0.pdf](https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/public_statements/1600479/governing_is_hard_antitrust_enforcement_in_the_first_year_of_the_biden_administration_0.pdf).