July 13, 2026

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives

cc:
The Honorable John Thune, Majority Leader, United States Senate
The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Minority Leader, United States Senate
The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members,

The advent of large language model-based AI has the potential to usher in a new era of digital growth and innovation, akin to the early days of the world wide web decades ago. Founders, entrepreneurs, and startups are once again empowered to build dynamic new products and services that benefit consumers, cut costs, create prosperity, and challenge the old order. But this new dynamism is under threat from entrenched incumbents whose continued success rests on market power, not merit.

America's technological leadership flows from free markets, where new ideas and companies succeed or fail on their merits (not on market power), where competition catalyzes innovation, and where consumers are free to choose the products and services that best meet their needs, not locked into extractive closed systems. That's why we — the undersigned companies — have come together to form a new organization: the Little Tech Association (LTA), composed of actual startups, investors, and growth-stage companies focused on making it easier to start, build, and grow in today's digital economy.

LTA is committed to defending free markets, empowering builders, liberating consumers, advancing open systems, and keeping technology markets competitive. While we may be in a moment of AI dynamism, that dynamism is under threat: entrenched incumbents are racing to lock it up, employing the old playbook of anticompetitive practices to chill investment and crush challengers before they can scale. To ensure that America is a place where startups can succeed, innovation can thrive, and digital markets are free, we need smart policies and strong enforcement to match the speed and scale of this moment.

We are not asking policymakers to pick winners. On the contrary, we are asking Congress and the Administration to restore the conditions under which real competition is possible. In particular, we see a need for policy to rein in the anticompetitive behaviors that a small number of technology companies are using to stifle innovation and undercut new entrants:

- Egregious forms of self-preferencing by dominant platforms — discriminating against other businesses that depend on those platforms — stifle innovation and undermine the quantity and quality of choices for consumers. What's more, this behavior preemptively kills new ideas before they're born by altering the decision-making of new firms and early-stage investors — talent and dollars shun sectors where anticompetitive hurdles appear too high. Congress should specifically address this behavior by establishing a duty of nondiscrimination for dominant platforms, as proposed in the **American Innovation & Choice Online Act (AICOA)**, and shifting the burden from small upstarts to trillion-dollar incumbents — requiring the latter to prove why such discrimination is necessary.
- Anticompetitive practices are particularly pronounced in the default app stores, where dominant firms manipulate search rankings, impose onerous fees on in-app purchases, restrict alternate payment systems, and selectively gatekeep. The effect is to raise prices for consumers and drive innovators away from the mobile marketplace. Lawmakers should stop such behavior by barring in-app payment mandates and anti-steering rules and narrowing the scope of justifications the store operators can use to prevent alternative payment systems as the **Open App Markets Act (OAMA)** proposes.
- Monopolistic incumbents also discourage competition by locking-in customers, not through superior services, but by limiting data portability and interoperability, raising switching costs and reducing communications across platforms. Congress should act to free consumers by embracing reforms like those in the **Augmenting Compatibility and Competition by Enabling Service Switching Act (ACCESS) Act**, which requires large platforms to maintain secure, standardized interfaces (APIs) that enable data portability and interoperability while authorizing the FTC to set technical standards. This nature of reform is particularly urgent as we see data retrieval increasingly mediated through agentic means.
- Like the monopolists of the 19th century, Big Tech has likewise used (and abused) vertical integration to corner markets, undercut rivals, and inflate prices. This is particularly true in digital advertising, where dominant incumbents operate the leading exchange while also representing both buyers and sellers. It's time for Congress to rein in such anticompetitive behavior by stopping large incumbent companies from owning multiple parts of the ad-tech supply chain and imposing fiduciary-style duties of best execution and transparency on intermediaries that operate across more than one side of the market — concepts articulated in the **Advertising Middlemen Endangering Rigorous Internet Competition Accountability (AMERICA) Act**. Nor should they stop there; the risks of vertical integration are particularly acute given the technology stack that supports AI.

Congress has already crafted targeted policy to address these behaviors. Each of the aforementioned proposals shows that durable, bipartisan coalitions can support smart competition policy. The time to advance these reforms is now.

The story of the past fifteen years in the digital economy has been one of consolidation, as a handful of dominant incumbents have turned an open internet into a set of walled gardens that erode consumer privacy, charge monopoly rents, and stifle innovation. The next fifteen must not look like the last. But without policy reform and robust enforcement, things may get worse as the benefits of AI flow only to the biggest firms, further entrenching them, rather than enabling disruption by a new generation of companies and founders.

We believe in sustaining America's technological leadership. That leadership flows from free markets that empower builders, benefit consumers, and catalyze innovation. Smart reforms and robust enforcement are essential to ensuring digital markets are free today, tomorrow, and for the years to come. When builders and innovators can compete on their merits, America wins!

Respectfully,

The undersigned members of the Little Tech Association

SIGNATORIES

209 member companies of the Little Tech Association

1849 Bio
Adapted Health
Adera AI
Agency
AgentCollect
Agree Ahmed
AI Tech Packs
Aidy
Alphawatch AI
Anakin
Andi
Andustry
Assembly HOA
Astraea
Atlia
Automax.ai
AutoSitu
Avion
Awesomic Labs
barkbase.app
Bilanc Finance Inc.
Bild AI
Bramante Biologics Corporation
Bucket Robotics
Cabana
CareSwift, Inc.
Casco
Cerenovus
Cheers
chromie.dev
Clara
Clarm
Clearly AI
Clerky
Convictional, Inc.
Corsair
Craftwork
cubic
Cyberdesk
Dart
Decisional
Deferred
DERYA MARITIME INC
Dex
Diode, Inc.
Dispatch
Dots
Edgerun
EffiGov
Ego Live Inc.
Ember AI
Emdash
Empirical Health
Enjamb Labs
Everest
Exla
Fed10
Finosu
flowscope
Flywheel AI
Forerunner
Forge Robotics
Frizzle
FullSeam
Garage
Gecko Security
Glep Payments
GodHands
Greypoint Industries
GUILD
Hera
Hermai
Hermes Robotics
Hop Aero
Idler
Instacrops
Integuru
Inversion Semiconductor Inc.
JadeIQ Inc
Jarmin
Justinian
Kadro
Kaelio
Khoj
Klime
Koyal AI Inc.
Labdoor
Ligo Biosciences
LunaJoy
Madrone
Magic Hour AI, Inc.
make sunsets
Manufact
Marengo
Meadow
Mem0
Mesmer Labs, Inc.
Metalware, Inc.
Meter Feeder
Miso
Miso Labs
Mithras Industrial
Miyagi Labs
Morphik, Inc.
NOX METALS
Nua AI
Null Labs
Offbeast
Olam Labs
One Robot
Open Energy
OpenRelay
Opensteer
OpenTrade
Orange Collective
Osmosis
Outpaint
Paces
Palus Finance
Panelytic
Panoptive
Panora
ParadeDB
Parsagon
Parsewise
Partcl, Inc.
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Pebble
Pennant
Perceptron ML
Pier
Pinnacle Software Development
Pipekit
Poka Labs
Posh Energy
PostHog
Prescience, Inc.
Proton
Reacher
Reality Defender
Redemption Games
Refresh
Regbase
Replit
Reshma Khilnani
Ridecell
Rig
RiskCube
Rose AI Labs Inc
Roundabout Technologies
Rovi Health
Saldor
Sarama
Scheduling Wizard
SchoolMint
Sei AI
Sennu AI
Senri Labs, Inc.
Servo7
Shiboleth.ai
SID
Slashy
Sol Browser
Sorce
Soria Analytics
Sourdough Technologies Inc.
Spaceflow Technologies, Inc.
Specific
Spectre Capital
Spice Data
Spruce Systems, Inc.
Standard Signal
StartPlaying
Stellar Sleep
Sterling Road
Sundry Capital
Surge
Synapse Semiconductor
Talkshi
Tavus
TaxGPT Inc.
Terminal Use
The General Aviation Company
The Smart Coop
TinySeed
Tire Swing
Trainy
Tributi
Ultrasonium
Understudy Labs
Vantedge AI
VELA AI
Velt
Vera Health
Verdant
Veria Labs, Inc.
Veryfi, Inc.
Vivaldi
Voker
Vouch, Inc.
Weave
Wideframe
WithAI
Wyndly
Y Combinator
Yelp
Yuzu Labs AI
Zeon Systems
ZeroPath