

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

December 10, 2024

Dear Commissioner Ferguson,

Congratulations on your designation as the next chair of the Federal Trade Commission.

Last week, journalists at *Punchbowl News* published a one-page document advocating for you to be named chair. It lays out your priorities for the FTC.

The document raises questions about those priorities — because of what is *not* in it. This is true regardless of who wrote it.

Americans pay more for healthcare than anyone else in the developed world, yet they die younger. Medical bills bankrupt people. In fact, this is the main reason Americans go bankrupt. But the document does not mention the cost of health care or prescription medicine.

If there was one takeaway from the election, it was that groceries are too expensive. So is gas. Yet the document does not mention groceries, gas, or the cost of living. While you have said we're entering the "most pro-worker administration in history," the document does not mention labor, either.

Americans are losing billions of dollars to fraud. Fraudsters are so brazen that they impersonate sitting FTC commissioners to steal money from retirees. The word "fraud" does not appear in the document.

The document *does* propose allowing more mergers, firing civil servants, and fighting something called "the trans agenda."

Is all of that more important than the cost of healthcare and groceries and gasoline? Or fighting fraud?

There has been a recent bipartisan alignment on the importance of challenging corporate power that threatens Americans' freedom and autonomy, and hurts working people and small businesses. We should not lose that. We urge you to correct the impression created by this document.

Sincerely,

Alvaro M. Bedoya Commissioner Rebecca Kelly Slaughter Commissioner