

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. RES. 1261

Of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to communications and directives with the Federal Trade Commission.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2022

Mr. BILIRAKIS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to communications and directives with the Federal Trade Commission.

1       *Resolved*, That the President of the United States is  
2 requested to furnish the House of Representatives, not  
3 later than 14 days after the date of adoption of this reso-  
4 lution, copies of any document, record, audio recording,  
5 memorandum, call log, correspondence (electronic or oth-  
6 erwise), or other communication in his possession, or any  
7 portion of any document, record, audio recording, memo-  
8 randum, call log, correspondence (electronic or otherwise),

1 or other communication, that refers or relates to the fol-  
2 lowing:

3           (1) The decision of the Federal Trade Commis-  
4 sion (FTC) to delete “without unduly burdening le-  
5 gitimate business activity” from the FTC’s draft  
6 strategy plan for fiscal years 2022 to 2026, as such  
7 language has been included in FTC mission state-  
8 ments for decades, through both Republican and  
9 Democrat administrations.

10           (2) The FTC’s goals changing from its tradi-  
11 tional focus on protecting consumers from fraud, as  
12 well as ensuring businesses have clear rules to fol-  
13 low, in favor of an unorthodox interpretation of its  
14 antitrust mission to reshape the United States econ-  
15 omy.

16           (3) The FTC’s communications and actions  
17 with departing commissioners, including casting so-  
18 called “zombie” votes after such individual’s depar-  
19 ture, and any use of official resources by such indi-  
20 vidual during or after such individual’s departure.

21           (4) Complaints received from career FTC em-  
22 ployees regarding being silenced with a “gag rule”  
23 as well as being terminated for exercising independ-  
24 ence from the FTC Chair’s executive staff.

1           (5) Communication or coordination between the  
2       Executive Office of the President and the Federal  
3       Trade Commission to initiate a Trade Regulation  
4       Rule on Commercial Surveillance.

5           (6) Statement by National Economic Council  
6       (NEC special assistant Tim Wu) who reportedly  
7       “asked the FTC to see if [you] can craft a rule  
8       around data collection”.

9           (7) Transmission from the Federal Trade Com-  
10      mission to Office of Information and Regulatory Af-  
11      fairs on a Trade Regulation Rule on Commercial  
12      Surveillance.

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