



Office of Commissioner
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Federal Trade Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Statement of Commissioner Rebecca Kelly Slaughter

Before the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Product Safety, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, U.S. House of Representatives
July 28, 2021

Chair Schakowsky, Ranking Member Bilirakis, and members of the Subcommittee, I am pleased to appear before you today (and I appreciate the opportunity to appear remotely; with my children too young to be vaccinated at home, I am being extra cautious about COVID-19).

I want to start by thanking this Committee for its incredibly hard work to pass the Consumer Privacy Protection and Recovery Act—what we refer to as the 13(b) fix—through the House this month. I am grateful for your appreciation of the challenges the recent Supreme Court decision posed for the Commission, and for your hard work to arm us with the tools we need to protect your constituents.

I am eager for us to continue to partner with Congress and this Committee. While I am here to discuss the bills before the Committee today, I also want to encourage you to continue to pursue a meaningful, comprehensive legislative approach to data abuses.

Abuses, Not Just Privacy

Yesterday, the FTC held its sixth annual PrivacyCon conference, with presenters discussing topics including algorithmic bias, issues around consent, misinformation during the pandemic, and special concerns related to kids and teens. That broad agenda reflected our understanding that data issues have moved past the narrow framework of who has access to your data. This understanding is why I prefer the term “data abuses” to the narrower term of “privacy.”

Thinking in terms of abuses reflects the fact that rampant data collection, sharing, and

experiencing in digital markets, and illuminate how we can act decisively to stamp out these abuses.