

Constituent Support for the FTC's

Support Across Sectors of Maine's Economy

*Some comments condensed due to length.

Profession	Comment

health care. Former patients, that have the right to chose their providers, were prevented from continuing their treatment with a trusted provider. The vast majority of those seeking outpatient psychiatric care had to travel more than 2 hours for that care. **In the setting of our country's mental health and substance use**

Additional Support from Maine

*Some comments condensed due to length.

Constituent First Name	Comment Highlights
Nathan	Dear Chair Lina Khan, Please issue a final rule to ban noncompete agreements and defend that rule in court to the full extent of your power. It is high time that this "free market" economy be free for the people and not just corporations. Sincerely, Nathan

I am a primary care physician in a rural, underserved area. In 2022 my department imploded and we went from seven providers (four physicians and three nurse practitioners) to two. I gave my notice after a meeting with a vice president who later was fired after multiple women, including me, filed c

Margaret

	<p>job was marketing/tech), I moved across the country, and my field has thousands upon thousands of competitors (which is important for Maryland standards). They also lied in court documents on what they do as a company in order to claim competitors. Finally they cut my pay drastically. In theory, their stance I should work for whatever they want to pay me, even if its not what I agreed to. Anyways, keeping them unchecked is terrible and puts all of the focus on legal which is unfair. I followed mine but its going to take 3 years to try to fight it. Unfortunately, unchecked power to a company in this regard makes them obsolete.</p>
Casey	<p>As a Loan Originator I have been deeply effected in a negative way in the form of compensation from the non compete clauses in our contracts. Furthermore, the consumer loses out as they don't receive the competition for their business and in some cases are confused by our industry thinking that they have to work with the lender who holds their mortgage application and cannot seek out the Loan Originator who left as they are typically not provided that contact information. Generally, Loan Originator's are commissioned employees so when we are not allowed to solicit customers we had to leave behind we lose a tremendous amount of income. Income which could be spent in the economy. Company's may provide the software and platforms to store the applications, but it is the Loan Originator who builds the business relationships to bring those applications in the door. The customer should have the choice to work with whomever they choose - regardless of which lender holds an application on them. Non competes harm the Loan Originator, they harm the applicants ability to choose the best deal for them, and hence harm the housing market and economy.</p>

I fully support this new rule to ban the non-

Margaret

the free market from driving down prices. This can be especially harmful for patients who cannot afford high healthcare costs. Non-compete clauses can also limit the ability of physicians to negotiate for better working conditions, wages, or benefits. Third, Non-compete clauses can stifle innovation in the healthcare industry by preventing physicians from sharing their knowledge and expertise with other healthcare providers. This can hinder progress and limit the development of new treatments and procedures. Finally, non-compete clauses can be particularly harmful to physicians who work in underserved or rural areas. These physicians may be the only provider in the area, and a non-compete clause could prevent them from continuing to serve their community if they decide to leave their current employer. Overall, non-compete clauses in physician contracts can be harmful to both physicians and patients, and can limit competition and innovation in the healthcare market. Some states have taken steps to limit the use of non

<p>Kim</p>	<p>Non-competes should absolutely be banned for all except, perhaps, high-level professionals in specified industries. For these, a non-compete should be tailored to address only narrow matters of risk to the employer for a limited time period and in a specified territory. The freedom to move about in our economy to find gainful employment in one's area of expertise should not be curtailed by employers as broadly as it is today. And general employees should not have to relocate if opportunities exist in their community.</p>
------------	---