

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Chair  
The Honorable Roger Wicker, Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Hart Senate Office Building 420 A  
Washington, D.C 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Wicker:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to express our strong support for the confirmation of Lina Khan to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Khan is a leading scholar and voice in antitrust with a bold legal and policy vision for protecting farmers and ranchers, workers, small farms and businesses, and bolstering an economy where all have a right to share in the prosperity they help build.

Khan is globally acclaimed for her scholarship and contributions toward reenvisioning antitrust law. Previously, she worked at FTC as legal advisor to FTC Commissioner Rohit Chopra. As a respected bipartisan leader, Khan received significant Republican support for the 2019 House Investigation of Competition in Digital Markets, which uncovered abusive business practices and developed a detailed strategy to restore competition to the sector. Her scholarship on FTC oversight reinvigorated FTC's ability to protect consumers across all economic sectors including agrifood, technology, and pharmaceuticals.

Khan is a champion for farmers, ranchers, and workers. Khan has advocated for full enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act to curb abusive business practices by monopolistic, transnational corporations in the seed, agrochemical, meatpacking, and retail markets. Khan spearheaded scholarship that shed light on coercive contracts used by poultry processors to trap chicken farmers in egregious production schemes. Realizing that a strong farm economy relies on strong labor protections, she was one of the first to argue that the FTC's competition authorities could be used to address non-compete clauses and predatory contracts that harm workers through suppressed wages and abusive practices. Khan distinctly realizes addressing concentrated power in agriculture and labor is dire to protect all farmers, ranchers, and workers, especially those who are socially disadvantaged, limited-resource, or smaller-scale.

Khan will use America's competition laws to save small businesses from the last thread they find themselves on today, and cultivate an environment where newly forming businesses can thrive in the marketplace. Nearly a decade ago, her research demonstrated that small business formation in the U.S. had been on the decline for 40 years, despite the popular notion that new small businesses were thriving. Similarly, her reliance on sound data led her to understand the fragility of supply chains caused by decades of unbridled mergers and consolidation if competition policies were not restored. We witnessed the brittleness of supply chains and distribution in the

COVID-19 pandemic, from empty grocery shelves to lagging vaccine distribution. Khan's pragmatic leadership will be instrumental during the COVID-19 recovery.

Khan's historic nomination as a Pakistani American helps fulfill President Biden's commitment to building a diverse administration and leadership team. Her unmatched expertise of antitrust law, bipartisan track record, and policymaking background make her the obvious choice to join the FTC as Commissioner. For these reasons, we urge you to confirm Lina Khan to serve as the next Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission.

Sincerely,

American Agriculture Movement  
Appetite For Change  
Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake Counties Farmers Union (Ohio)  
Campaign for Contract Agriculture Reform  
Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment  
Climate Crisis Policy  
Community Alliance for Global Justice (Seattle, WA)  
Community Farm Alliance  
Contract Poultry Growers Association of the Virginias  
Family Farm Action  
Family Farm Defenders  
Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance  
Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)  
Franklin County Local Food Council  
Friends of the Earth  
Government Accountability Project  
HEAL (Health, Environment, Agriculture, Labor) Food Alliance  
Indiana Farmers Union  
Indivisible  
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy  
Missouri Farmers Union  
National Farmers Organization  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
New England Farmers Union  
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont  
Open Markets Institute  
OrganicEye  
Powder River Basin Resource Council  
Rural Coalition  
San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition  
United States Cattlemen's Association  
Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC)  
Wisconsin Farmers Union