

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 16, 2021

Mr. Parag Agrawal  
Chief Executive Officer  
Twitter  
355 Market Street, Suite 900  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Agrawal:

We are hopeful that your ascent to the position of CEO will turn a new page at Twitter, which has been marred by acts of censorship, particularly when it comes to individuals and entities with conservative viewpoints. Such examples include the de-platforming of a sitting U.S. President, suspending the *New York Post*'s official account for reporting on then-Democrat nominee Joe Biden's son's scandals shortly before the election, and censoring many other conservative voices, while not applying the same standards to liberal-progressive content. It is also worth noting that while conservative content is being banned or otherwise censored, brutal and anti-Semitic despots like Iran's Supreme Leader continue to find a home on Twitter.

Your transition is an opportunity to right the ship. However, your past comments raise serious questions regarding your interest in re-opening the platform you lead to free expression. On the issue of censorship, you noted in an interview last year that Twitter should, "focus less on thinking about free speech."<sup>1</sup> We found this to be deeply disappointing and troubling. The free exchange of ideas is one of the most foundational aspects of our Constitutional Republic. In our modern age, in which social media and other internet companies serve as the gatekeepers of the digital public square, these liberties must be respected by both our corporate and governmental institutions. While the First Amendment does not bind your decisions, the principle of preserving free speech should. Platforms like Twitter should allow Americans to engage with a diversity of ideas no matter whether or not those viewpoints are shared by Silicon Valley corporate elites.

As you know, Twitter enjoys liability protections under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. Unfortunately, Twitter has abused these privileges time and again. Despite your past comments supporting censorship, we remain hopeful that your time leading Twitter will be spent working to uphold the ideals that made your platform's success possible and that have made our country the most prosperous in the world.

Accordingly, please answer the following questions about Twitter's commitment under your leadership to upholding free speech by December 30, 2021:

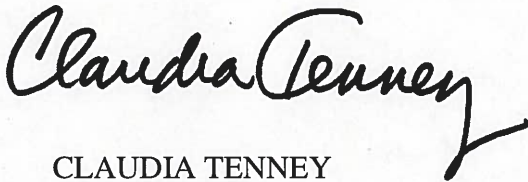
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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/11/18/1012066/emtech-stage-twitters-cto-on-misinformation/>

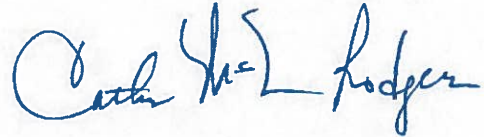
1. Will you commit to applying your content policies fairly, no matter the political leaning of the speaker on your platform? If no, why not?
2. What is your plan to avoid the past mistakes made by Twitter in censoring conservative voices and causes?
3. How do you plan to use Twitter's role as an important cultural institution to uphold the spirit and principle of the First Amendment?
4. In light of how Twitter influenced the 2020 presidential election, what changes to your policies do you intend to make to ensure Twitter remains neutral in future elections?

After providing written responses, please make arrangements to schedule a briefing for staff of the undersigned. If you have any questions, please contact Haim Engelman or Bijan Koohmaraie. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



CLAUDIA TENNEY  
Member of Congress



CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS  
Member of Congress



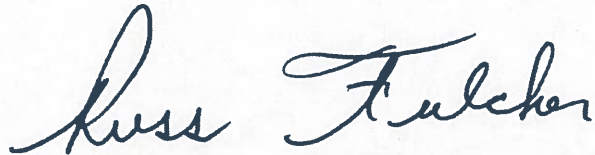
EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER  
Member of Congress



ROBERT E. LATTA  
Member of Congress



GUS M. BILIRAKIS  
Member of Congress



RUSS FULCHER  
Member of Congress



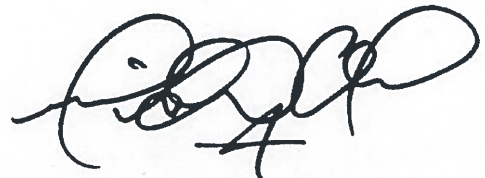
DAN BISHOP  
Member of Congress



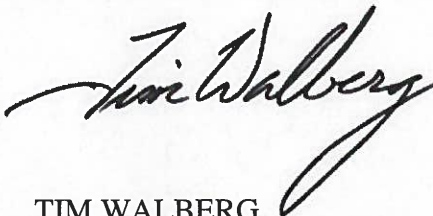
BEN CLINE  
Member of Congress



JAKE LaTURNER  
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TIM WALBERG  
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