

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4324**

January 15, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Over the last several years, Big Tech companies – including Google, Apple, Facebook, Twitter and Amazon – have frequently abused their power and market dominance to effectively censor conservative voices. Last week, this censorship reached a new, concerning level as Twitter permanently banned the President of the United States. Other companies quickly followed suit, with Facebook, YouTube, Snapchat, and others banning the President.

The permanent suspension of the President of the United States due to the “the risk of further incitement of violence” has revealed a stunning double standard. While banning the President, Twitter has continued to allow leaders of the Chinese Communist Party, who have used the platform to advocate for the eradication of Uyghurs, and the Ayatollah of Iran, who frequently threatens both Israel and the United States via Twitter. In July, for example, the Ayatollah tweeted, “The Islamic Republic of Iran will never forget the martyrdom of Hajj Qasem Soleimani and will definitely strike a reciprocal blow to the US.” This tweet continues to remain active on Twitter’s platform today.

This stunning double standard makes clear Twitter is not looking out for their users’ safety – they are wielding their dangerously influential market power to actively censor voices their top brass disagrees with. Prior to last week, this truth was no clearer than on October 14, 2020, when Twitter locked the account of the New York Post weeks before the election and suspended users’ ability to share the New York Post’s reporting revealing the concerning contents of Hunter Biden’s laptops. On October 30, 2020, a full two weeks later and just days before Election Day, the New York Post ultimately regained control of their account after Twitter announced it had updated its policies. To this day, the New York Post’s reporting has not been refuted by Hunter Biden nor the Biden campaign.

I am glad that the House Judiciary Committee began investigating Big Tech’s market dominance in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress and I hope that this Congress will continue investigating and analyzing whether our laws are effectively governing how these companies are able to operate. In the meantime, we need to put our money where our mouth is. In the wake of Big Tech’s escalating censorship of conservative voices, I am pledging to refuse any and all campaign contributions from Google, Apple, Facebook, Twitter and Amazon from this point forward. I would like to ask you to consider doing the same.

Big Tech is increasingly wielding their power and market dominance to silence conservative voices, and we need to put an end to it. **Please join me in sending a clear message to those in Silicon Valley: if you're going to censor conservative voices, we don't want your money.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Van Duyne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Beth Van Duyne  
Member of Congress