



January 27, 2022

The Honorable Chairman Dick Durbin

711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley

135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

CC: U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley,

As industry leaders and members of the Coalition for App Fairness (CAF), we write to express our strong support for the Open App Markets Act (S. 2710) introduced by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN). We urge you to support this important bill and pass it out of committee.

Fair and open competition is the driving force behind a well-functioning free market. But today, mobile app marketplace gatekeepers use a vice-like grip to control developers and impose terms and conditions that undermine competition, throttle innovation, limit consumer choice, and lead to higher prices. They eliminate competition by restricting developers from using alternative methods of app distribution, and then mandate that developers use their payment systems to extract excessive fees, limit competitors' access to information, gain access to troves of developer's customer data to build competing services, and dictate how developers can communicate with their own customers through their apps, including prohibiting developers from informing users of lower prices outside of the app.

The bipartisan, bicameral Open App Markets Act is targeted to address these anticompetitive practices that harm consumers and innovators. This legislation would directly benefit consumers, strengthening choice and freedom. Additionally, the bill would remove barriers app store platforms place between developers and users, allowing companies to communicate directly with their customers. Consumers would be able to download apps from the app store of their choice, choose their own default apps, and make it easier to remove pre-installed software.

We appreciate the leadership of Senators Blumenthal, Blackburn, and Klobuchar on this critical issue and applaud Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley for moving this commonsense, bipartisan legislation forward. We urge you to support the Open App Markets Act to promote a free, fair, and competitive app marketplace.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christopher Cummings
Curiosity Media Inc., CEO

Nick Dennis
fitDEGREE, Founder and CEO

Shar Dubey
Match Group, CEO

Daniel Ek
Spotify, Founder and CEO

Kosta Eleftheriou
FlickType, Founder and CEO

David Heinemeier Hansson
Basecamp, Co-Founder and CEO

Joe Kiani
Masimo, Founder, Chairman and CEO

Khoi Le
Fanhouse, CEO

Derrick Morton
FlowPlay, President

Christian Owens
Paddle.com, Founder and CEO

CJ Prober
Tile, CEO

Erik Rind

ImagineBC, Founder and CEO

Matt Ronge

Astropad, CEO

Benjamin Simon

Down Dog, Founder and CEO

Peter Smith

Blockchain.com, Inc., Co-founder and CEO

Tim Sweeney

Epic Games, Founder and CEO

Karen Thomas

Agrin Health, CEO

Thomas Williamson

Grove Street Games, Founder and CEO

Alison Yates

Knitrino, Co-founder and CEO

Andy Yen

Proton AG, Founder and CEO