



May 14, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President and Congressional Leaders:

Competition is the foundation of affordability and the engine of opportunity. In America, ingenuity, honesty, and hard work are supposed to unlock the American dream. For four decades, however, dominant firms across industry after industry have steadily consolidated market power, used that power to discriminate against independent businesses, and retaliated against those who challenged them. Reinforced by political access in Washington, these firms have put the American dream out of reach for all but the largest competitors, while families, farmers, and

small businesses on Main Street face an affordability squeeze that does not discriminate between political parties.

A bipartisan consensus has been forming. Across the first Trump Administration, the Biden Administration, and the current Administration, leaders in both parties have come to recognize that competition belongs at the center of federal policy and enforcement. Competition is good for consumers, good for workers, and good for the businesses and producers who play by the rules. What has been missing is an organized voice in Washington speaking on behalf of the Main Street businesses, producers, and farmers most directly affected by anticompetitive conduct.

The Main Street Competition Coalition exists to provide that voice. Originally formed as a coalition to restore enforcement of the Robinson-Patman Act, the MSCC is now formalizing and expanding to address anticompetitive and unfair business practices across the economy. Our purpose is to advance a substantive antitrust and fair competition agenda that both parties can support, and that federal and state enforcers can act on. We welcome partnership and behind-the-scenes collaboration with the trade associations, advocacy organizations, businesses, academics, and policymakers already working on these questions, and we invite continued engagement as our work develops.

Our priorities, drawn directly from the experience of our members, span grocery and retail, pharmacy and health care, agriculture, beverage alcohol, franchising, distribution, and digital markets. These are the everyday markets that serve communities in every state and congressional district. We urge action through both legislation and law enforcement to deliver the affordability and opportunity that the American people, and the businesses and farmers who serve them, deserve.

These priorities reflect the experience of our founding members; they are not the only sectors where competition has eroded. Concentration of buyer power, discriminatory pricing and contract terms imposed on smaller customers, vertical integration that closes off independent channels, and retaliation against independent rivals are recurring features across the American economy. As additional industries and constituencies join the Coalition's work, our advocacy will broaden accordingly.

The evidence supporting this agenda is substantial and continues to grow. Researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta have documented that lower-income communities face significantly higher food inflation driven by retail market concentration and fewer local competitors.¹ The U.S. Department of Agriculture has reported that decades of consolidation in the seed industry have reduced farmer choice, enabled dominant firms to impose restrictive licensing terms, and weakened competition.² Federal Trade Commission findings indicate that during the pandemic, large grocery chains used their size and scale to keep their shelves stocked, edging out smaller rivals when most stores struggled with product shortages and distribution bottlenecks.³ The Federal Trade Commission has separately reported that the three dominant pharmacy benefit managers marked up specialty generic drugs by hundreds and thousands of percent.⁴ The U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary has documented how a vertically integrated chain pharmacy and pharmacy benefit manager used network rules, audits, and contractual leverage to target independent pharmacies that worked with competing digital pharmacy services, while simultaneously building its own competing offering.⁵ USDA's analysis of meat sales practices points to dominant retailers and food service distributors using excessive fees, preferential pricing, and other arrangements to squeeze independent competitors out of the supply chain.⁶ The FTC has acted against discriminatory pricing practices in alcohol distribution.⁷ The case for renewed competition policy has been made in

¹Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, *Geospatial Heterogeneity in Inflation: A Market Concentration Story*, Working Paper (Nov. 6, 2025), available at <https://www.atlantafed.org/research-and-data/publications/working-papers/2025/11/06/15-geospatial-heterogeneity-in-inflation-market-concentration-story>.

²U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, *More and Better Choices for Farmers: Promoting Fair Competition and Innovation in Seeds and Other Agricultural Inputs*, available at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/SeedsReport.pdf>.

³Wall Street Journal coverage of Federal Trade Commission staff findings on pandemic-era grocery distribution, available at <https://www.wsj.com/articles/ftc-finds-large-grocers-used-size-to-stock-shelves-during-pandemic-1db4c870>.

⁴Federal Trade Commission, Press Release, *FTC Releases Second Interim Staff Report on Prescription Drug Middlemen* (Jan. 2025), available at <https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/news/press-releases/2025/01/ftc-releases-second-interim-staff-report-prescription-drug-middlemen>.

⁵U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, *New Report Reveals CVS Health Targeted Competitors and Independent Pharmacies* (Jan. 2026), available at <https://judiciary.house.gov/media/press-releases/new-report-reveals-cvs-health-targeted-competitors-and-independent-pharmacies>.

⁶U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Interim Report on Competition and Fair Practices in Meat Merchandising*, available at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/interim-report-competition-and-fair-practices-meat-merchandising>.

⁷CNN, *Federal regulators are planning to use a rarely enforced law from the Great Depression to take on America's largest alcohol distributor* (June 7, 2024), available at <https://www.cnn.com/2024/06/07/business/depression-era-law-ftc-southern-glazers/index.html>.

publications across the political spectrum, including The Atlantic,⁸ the Federalist Society,⁹ and academic research from Duke Law School.¹⁰

Businesses and producers have spoken. It is time for Washington to listen. The Main Street Competition Coalition stands ready to work with the Administration, with both parties in Congress, with state attorneys general, and with the broader policy and business community to restore competition to its rightful place at the center of American economic life.

Respectfully,

The Main Street Competition Coalition

⁸The Atlantic, *How Bad Antitrust Helped Create America's Food Deserts* (Dec. 2024), available at <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2024/12/food-deserts-robinson-patman/680765/>.

⁹The Federalist Society Blog, *Not Enforcing the Robinson-Patman Act Is Lawless and Likely Harms Consumers*, available at <https://fedsoc.org/commentary/fedsoc-blog/not-enforcing-the-robinson-patman-act-is-lawless-and-likely-harms-consumers>.

¹⁰Duke Law School research on price discrimination and independent retailers, Social Science Research Network, available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4833711.