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February 4, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Democratic Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Democratic Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, and Democratic Leaders Jeffries and Schumer:

On behalf of Internet Works, a trade association representing middle tech businesses, I am writing to express our desire to work closely with Congressional Leadership and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle in the 119th Congress. Millions of Americans rely on our platforms to grow a small business, find a new job, book a vacation, share information with neighbors, connect with friends, discover a local restaurant, or shop online. Our members have worked hard to build trust with their users, and that's why it's so critical that our members have a seat at the table as Congress considers changes to federal tech policy.

During the 118th Congress, tech policy debates were often focused on the largest American tech companies. We understand Congress must address the concerns their constituents have with "big tech"; but it's important to recognize that the American tech ecosystem is not monolithic and that nearly all regulatory tech proposals will disproportionately affect online enterprises of all sizes and business models. That's why Internet Works and our members have worked diligently and in good faith since our convening four years ago to ensure that our members and their users are represented in important policy conversations. Simply stated, our goal is to preserve the Internet as a place of innovation and limitless opportunity.

To that end, it is vital that online regulation be right-sized for middle tech companies, including preserving the integrity of Section 230 of the *Communications Decency Act*, which has helped American companies survive and thrive to the benefit of consumers and countless small businesses for nearly 30 years. The Internet would not be the force for economic growth that it is today, nor would it bring the world closer together, without Section 230.

Further, tech policy today also includes an ever-expanding host of issues that impact online platforms in different ways, including data privacy, online trust and safety, artificial intelligence, and competition, to name just a few. Internet Works has partnered with members of Congress to develop policies that address real online issues without stifling innovation. For example, we supported the *REPORT Act*, which will

protect children from online sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as the *Invest in Child Safety Act*. We also worked with the Senate Commerce Committee to improve the ability of middle tech companies to comply with the *TAKE IT DOWN Act*, because we strongly agree that it's important to protect victims of non-consensual intimate imagery online. As the work of this Congress gets underway, we are hopeful that any legislation aiming to address real online harms will be clear in intent and take a reasonable and proportionate approach to ensure a healthy and diverse internet ecosystem that works for all Americans.

Internet Works is eager to continue our work with lawmakers and participate in thoughtful and actionable discussions about these important issues. By working together, we can preserve a balanced regulatory environment that fosters innovation while protecting users online, ensuring the internet continues to deliver for the American people.

Sincerely,



Peter Chandler
Executive Director of Internet Works

Internet Works Members:

Automattic
Discord
Dropbox
eBay
Etsy
Eventbrite
Expedia Group
Glassdoor
Indeed
Intuit
Nextdoor
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