

Big Tech has transformed the information superhighway into a superspreader of harmful content, invasive surveillance practices, and addictive and damaging design features. Data is Big Tech's most valuable commodity. And by collecting far more user data than they need, Big Tech platforms can use, share, and sell information to generate billions of dollars in revenue. Today, the American people are powerless to stop this invasion of their privacy. We cannot wait any longer to pass comprehensive, national privacy legislation that puts people back in control of their data.

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Today we intend to bring more transparency to TikTok, which is controlled by its China-based parent company ByteDance. While TikTok videos provide a new, fun way for people to express their creativity and enjoy the videos of others, the platform also threatens the health, privacy, and security of the American people. And I am not convinced that the benefits outweigh the risks that it poses to Americans in its present form.

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TikTok collects and compiles vast troves of valuable personal information to inform an algorithm that is able to predict with uncanny accuracy which videos will keep users scrolling—even if the content is harmful, inaccurate, or feeds destructive behavior or extremist beliefs.

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Public outrage and mea culpas alone are not going to rein in Big Tech. Congress must enact laws protecting the American public from such online harms.

We simply cannot wait any longer to pass the comprehensive privacy legislation I authored with then Ranking Member Rodgers last Congress that overwhelmingly advanced out of the Committee.