



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Federal Trade Commission
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Office of the Chair

**Remarks of Chair Lina M. Khan
On Passage of New Procedures to Open Up Rulemaking Petitions to the Public
Commission File No. P072104**

September 15, 2021

A key priority of mine is ensuring that the FTC is regularly hearing and learning from the broader public, including the consumers, workers, and honest businesses that we strive to protect. Guarding against insularity is a constant challenge for virtually all federal agencies, and ensuring that the FTC is accessible even to those who lack well-heeled counsel or personal connections is essential to our institutional credibility. Introducing these open meetings and inviting public comments on a monthly basis has been part of an effort to democratize our work in this way.

Today, we are taking this effort one step further by implementing changes to our procedures around rulemaking. Congress granted the FTC the power to issue rules, equipping us with a vital tool to protect the public from harmful business practices. Interested members of the public will be able to petition the FTC to invoke its rulemaking and other authorities to advance its mission. The new procedures provide clearer guidance to the public on how to file a petition with the Commission and what steps the Commission will take after receiving a petition. These revised procedures will help ensure that all interested parties will have effective and meaningful access to the petition process. Each petition for rulemaking will be made publicly available; petitioners will be provided an agency point of contact to assist petitioners throughout the process; and all petitions will be put out for comment so others can comment on them. Finally, the new procedures ensure that petitioners are notified of a Commission decision on the petition one way or another.

As Chair, I am fully committed to finding ways to ensure our agency is directly connected to and responsive to the public we serve, and I welcome additional ideas for how we can modify our agency's processes to better meet these goals.
