

**TOM COTTON**



SENATOR FOR ARKANSAS

## Senate Platform Competition and Opportunity Act

*Limiting big tech's ability to expand their monopolies  
by snuffing out competitors*

**Background:** The dominant technology platforms have used acquisitions to expand their monopolistic market share by snuffing out competitors. Amazon has acquired cloud computing startups, Apple purchased firms related to mobile sales, Google purchased search-related data firms, and Facebook purchased Instagram.

These anti-competitive acquisitions have contributed to a dominant market share for the big tech firms. Google controls 92% of the search and advertising market, Amazon controls 80% of the e-Book market, Facebook controls 72% of social media, and Apple—along with Google—share total control of the App Store market. These firms have used this monopolistic market share to censor conservative viewpoints and suppress competition.

**What the bill does:** Senator Cotton's legislation establishes a presumption against mergers and acquisitions of potential competitors by the Big Tech companies. A designated firm will have the burden of showing that any purchase of greater than \$50 million does not contribute to or sustain its dominant market share. The bill would prevent big tech from further suppressing competition through killer acquisitions.

**Who this applies to:** The bill only applies to dominant technology platforms that:

- Have at least 50,000,000 U.S.-based monthly active users or 100,000 monthly active business users;
- Has a market capitalization of \$600 billion as calculated by a 180-day trading average;
- Is a critical trading partner to other businesses

**Changes from the House Judiciary Committee version:** The Senate version of this bill was amended to remove discretion from the FTC to ensure that this legislation will only apply to monopolistic big tech firms. The Senate version includes a provision limiting the application of this bill to firms that meet the above criteria *within 30-days of the bill's passage*. This will ensure that other growing firms—that do not have the same monopolistic practices of big tech—avoid these limitations.

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**CONTACT:** Brian Colas (brian\_colas@cotton.senate.gov) and Meg McGauhey (meg\_mcgauhey@cotton.senate.gov)