

EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER
FIRST DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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CHANGE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND
COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE
2432 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5831

SAVANNAH OFFICE
6802 ABERCORN STREET
SAVANNAH, GA 31405
(912) 352-0101

BRUNSWICK OFFICE
777 GLOUCESTER STREET
SUITE 410
BRUNSWICK, GA 31520
(912) 265-9010

[HTTP://BUDDYCARTER.HOUSE.GOV](http://BUDDYCARTER.HOUSE.GOV)

April 5, 2021

Mark Zuckerberg
Chairman and CEO
Facebook, Inc.
1601 Willow Rd.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Jack Dorsey
CEO
Twitter, Inc.
1355 Market Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94103

Mr. Zuckerberg and Mr. Dorsey,

Your companies have taken very public steps, ranging from deplatforming a sitting President to censoring cartoons shared by conservatives, in what you have described as a concerted effort to combat disinformation. I wholeheartedly disagree with any form of censorship on your platform. However, if you are going to censor information in the name of "misinformation," it must be done in an impartial manner. Unfortunately, after seeing countless posts with false information regarding Georgia's Election Integrity Act, it is clear that is not the case. I write today to demand that you immediately rectify this blatant hypocrisy.

You have remained silent on – and allowed individuals in the leadership of your companies to participate in – the organized disinformation campaign against Georgia's new election integrity law.

It has been clearly reported that this law will expand voting opportunities.¹ However, there are numerous examples on your platforms of people spreading false information. In fact, the Washington Post recently gave President Biden's comments on the law four Pinocchios following a fact check.² But, you continue to allow similar provably false content regarding the law to be spread on your platforms.

Not only are you allowing misinformation to run rampant on your platforms, but public statements made on behalf of your companies are contributing to this spread of misinformation. At Facebook, Roy Austin, the Deputy General Counsel for Civil Rights, said in reference to the Election Integrity Act, "we... oppose efforts to make it harder for people to vote," despite the

¹ Stephen Fowler, *What Does Georgia's New Voting Law SB 202 Do?*, Georgia Public Broadcasting (March 27, 2021), available at <https://www.gpb.org/news/2021/03/27/what-does-georgias-new-voting-law-sb-202-do>

² Glenn Kessler, *Biden falsely claims the new Georgia law 'ends voting hours early'*, Washington Post (March 30, 2021) available at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/03/30/biden-falsely-claims-new-georgia-law-ends-voting-hours-early/>

Act expanding access to voting. Jessica Herrera-Flanigan, the Vice President of Public Policy in the Americas at Twitter, wrote “it is critical that we collectively oppose voter suppression and promote voting access and election transparency.”³ Again, a provably false statement used in regard to the new Georgia law.

To maintain public trust, your companies must approach misinformation with an even hand, regardless of the source’s political affiliation and it’s alignment with the political beliefs of your executives. It is clear however, with respect to this law, that you have foregone such an impartial balance. With both of your companies allocating significant resources and pledging elections as a priority, it’s important that you focus on the facts.

Mr. Zuckerberg, you told me in a hearing on March 25th that Facebook “applies your policies to all situations” and that you “apply your policies equally.” Mr. Dorsey, in that same hearing you said you “are looking for all opportunities to minimize anything that takes away from the integrity of elections.”⁴ If you really want to show impartiality, let the truth come out.

There is clear misinformation circulating on your platforms about this law and its changes. For example, a tweet from a verified account on March 26th labeled it as a “racist law” and has nearly 8,000 retweets.⁵ Other posts can be found on Facebook that push a narrative of voter suppression to hundreds of thousands of people.⁶ As I mentioned in recent questions to you both, elections should be treated in a serious, but fair, manner. Now is your opportunity to stop the hypocrisy.

Sincerely,



Earl L. “Buddy” Carter
Member of Congress

³ Carrie Mihalcik, *Georgia election law: Microsoft said it needlessly and unfairly’ makes it harder to vote*, CNET (April 2, 2021) available at <https://www.cnet.com/news/georgia-election-law-microsoft-says-it-needlessly-and-unfairly-makes-it-harder-to-vote/>

⁴ Energy & Commerce Committee hearing titled “*Disinformation Nation: Social Media’s Role in Promoting Extremism and Misinformation*”, available at <https://republicans-energycommerce.house.gov/hearings/disinformation-nation-social-medias-role-in-promoting-extremism-and-misinformation/>

⁵ <https://twitter.com/funder/status/1375546379989360650>

⁶ https://www.facebook.com/theneatorg/?ref=page_internal