



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

FROM: Office of the Commission Secretary *LC*

DATE: August 8, 2022

SUBJECT: AO 2022-14 (Google LLC) 85 Individual Comments

The following are AO 2022-14 (Google LLC) 85 Individual Comments.

This matter will be discussed on the Open Meeting of August 11, 2022.

Attachment

RECEIVED

By Office of the Commission Secretary at 3:05 pm, Aug 08, 2022

From: [Ann Terranova](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022 14 Google Proposal
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:28:05 PM

The FEC should be protecting the integrity of our elections, not allowing corporations to influence them.

I Vote

Sent from my iPhone

From: [-KWH-](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 - Registered voter - Request to Reject Google's Request
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:43:28 PM

Dear FEC,

I write to you as a concerned US citizen, regarding Google's proposal AO-2022-14 and respectfully ask that you reject Google's request, on the basis that it will have adverse negative effects on U.S. democracy, by enabling powerful corporate interests, with massive financial resources, to unduly manipulate large segments of the voting population to vote for/support candidates and policy positions that align their own financial interests ahead of the interests of the voters who would receive unsolicited direct email campaign initiatives under the provisions of the proposal.

(Also, like everyone else with an email address, I already get too much spam email!)

Please reject Google's proposal AO 2022-14.

Sincerely,

Keith W. Hogberg



Doral, FL 33178

From: [Larry Sosnowski](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:00:10 PM

In order to guarantee equity and ethics in American election campaigns, it is the fiduciary responsibility of the Federal Election Commission to reject the proposal by Google regarding campaign emails and solicitation.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Sosnowski
Beaver Falls, Pa. 15010

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Ron Rains](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:46:37 PM

I'm writing to urge you to reject Google's request to relax spam filters to benefit Republican political campaigns.

Sincerely,

Ronald Rains
Chicago, Illinois

--

Ron E. Rains

Coming Soon:
June 2022



August 2022
Sense & Sensibility
Indiana Repertory Theatre

November 2022
Brooklyn '45



A Shudder Original

From: [Dorothy Peck](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:43:14 PM

Google asked if they could loosen the rules on political spam—and give a benefit to one political party in the process. I strongly oppose any ruling by the FEC to permit relaxing rules on political misinformation and broad propagation of the same. I strongly urge the FEC to reject Google’s request.

Thank you for giving my request serious consideration,
Dorothy Peck



Virus-free www.avast.com

From: [Janet Bemis](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:33:44 PM

I urge you to reject the Google request to circumvent spam filters for political messaging.

Thank you
Janet Bemis

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Janet Bemis](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:31:43 PM

Sent from my iPhone

From: [papagaai](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:00:18 PM

Google should absolutely NOT be allowed to flood my inbox with political spam. The FEC should be protecting the integrity of elections - not allowing mega companies to aid and abet specific political parties. This request must be rejected, for the sanity of all of us, and keep us free of the multitude of lies which constantly circulate on social media. I get enough of it on other platforms - I don't need the wretched stuff coming in to my inbox!

Drusilla Quilley
Wilmington DE 19808

Sent from my iPad

From: [Michael Alexander](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Cc: [Elizabeth Warren](#); [Representative Moulton](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:09:45 PM

As an American citizen and a resident of Massachusetts, I am extremely disturbed over the false information and disinformation that is allowed spread on Google and other media web sites to make a buck. I therefore oppose Google's proposal to loosen the rules on political spam. We do not live in a country that rules by "let the buyer beware." The government's business is to ensure that all the "airways" are free from lies, disinformation and misinformation. Therefore the FEC should deny this request.

Sent from my iPad

From: [kathryn.lanthier](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google Request
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:47:51 PM

To the FCC: I do not support Google plan to lift spam filters. That does not serve us users. The attempt to favor one political party over another is outrageous after what we have just been thru with the big lie. We need more truth and fairness in political ads - not less.

Kathryn Lanthier
[REDACTED]
Cataumet, Ma 92534
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Judd Sheets](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Modification of Span filters for political content AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:28:33 PM

Please do not seek modification of anyone's spam filter for political content. This content is easy to find if anyone wants to see it, and forcing users to receive it is unfair.

Judd Sheets

From: [Darrell Powell](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: No To Google
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:53:36 PM

I don't want anymore spam email! Vote no to their proposal!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Alice Weintraut](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Please REJECT Google's request AO 2022-14 (Google) to allow political spam email
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:12:46 PM

I am concerned about the massive amounts of junk email I receive. Google's request in [AO 2022-14 \(Google\)](#) to allow political campaigns special exceptions around junk filters is inappropriate and unnecessary. I understand this has largely been because Republicans have demanded it to low fundraising. That is NOT my problem, and I have no interest in receiving large amounts of scammy sounding donation requests just bc political parties are personally upset with their limited access to me. The FEC should be protecting the integrity of our elections, not providing special ways for voters' privacy to be invaded.

Thank you very much,
Alice Weintraut

From: [A Tree](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Referencing AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:14:39 PM

I will not tolerate the FEC forcing me to receive Republican spam emails because Republicans insist on comparing emails w/how the USPS operates in delivering paid-for political materials. I set my Google filters as I wish, not to please the Republican National Committee. If the Republican party wishes to send spam emails, send them to someone who'll forget about the recent surge of criminal activity by the Republican party under former POTUS Donald Trump. But if I begin to receive Republican spam emails and there are inaccuracies in those emails, I'll be taking the RNC and whichever politicians are associated w/those falsehoods to court. I will also attempt to include the FEC in any lawsuit given that the FEC would be forcing that inaccurate, deceptive Republican campaign material on me.

The FEC under Trump's appointees committed criminal acts to further Trump and Republican aims of seducing the electorate. Trump's FEC Chairman Ajit Pai cut off public discussion regarding internet neutrality and blamed that cut-off of public discussion on a technical failure when, in reality, then-Chairman Pai had already decided to rescind the internet neutrality law. If the FEC allows itself to once again support political favoritism under pressure from the Republican party, the FEC will face a backlash of unexpected intensity in the political arena.

I read several newspapers a day and I thereby get as much news about Republican politicians as I wish to receive. If I wish to support or learn more about particular Republicans, I will engage in outreach and listen to their townhalls or read their web sites. But I will NOT be forced to read their BS on a daily basis.

I already am inundated w/phone calls from PACs claiming they're bipartisan. When I put those questionable PACs on hold to say I'll be checking them out on Charity Navigator or another charity web site to determine if they're truly bipartisan before I contribute to them, they hang up. Invariably, these PACs claiming a bipartisan status are Republican PACs and the money they raise goes to Republicans, not to an equal share of Democrats and Republicans. The Republican party has behaved heinously and criminally during the Trump era. The FEC must not cave and allow Republicans to inundate the entire US population w/such emails as Trump spewed in 2016 and 2020 where individuals thought they had contributed on a one-time basis only to discover the RNC had pre-checked the RECURRING MONTHLY DONATION BOX. Enough already w/Republican criminality. If Republicans want to impress me, Republicans are welcome to do so w/impressively conceived legislation that reduces drug prices, or enhances educational opportunities for gifted students. But I will not suffer an inundation of dishonest, downright lying campaign emails in my inbox just because the RNC knows they're free to disperse vs the expense of printed flyers. The FEC has already destroyed one of the most valuable aspects of the internet — INTERNET NEUTRALITY — don't allow the Republican party to insist the FEC destroy political neutrality and personal choices of users of the internet.

Sincerely,
A Wisconsin voter

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/01/26/net-neutrality-foe-and-departed-fcc-chairman-ajit-pai-stands-by-repeal.html>

From: Mar H
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google) - Public Comment
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:31:15 PM

REJECT Google's request to loosen the rules on political spam. I do NOT want political spam in my inbox. Susan Harrison, San Jacinto, California.

From: Jeanette King
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:39:43 PM

Hello,

I am writing to urge you to not allow political emails to circumvent spam filters. It's bad enough I get put on lists for phone texts that I have to reply "stop" to every day. I don't need that nonsense in my email inbox too.

Jeanette King
Bend, OR
--

Jeanette

From: Lisa M. Krepel
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:49:35 PM

Please reject Google's proposal.

Lisa Krepel



Groton CT 06340

From: Jim Wiltschko
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:29:07 PM

Please reject AO 2022-14.

From: Faith Vaughn
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:02:02 PM

I urge you to reject Google's request to loosen the rules on political spam.

Faith Vaughn

From: [REDACTED]
To: [AO](#)
Subject: eferencing AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:31:19 PM

Please reject Google's request. Thank you, Marilyn E. Lemons

From: [REDACTED]
To: [AO](#)
Subject: referencing AO 2022-14 (Google),
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:37:00 PM

Tell Google no.

The FEC should be protecting the integrity of our elections, not allowing corporations to influence them.

Thank you!

Bud Warren

From: MargoBuck
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Reject AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:22:06 PM

There is no reason to give special email consideration to Republican candidates. In my experience, their emails don't get caught in spam filters any more frequently than those of Democrats.

This is an effort by Republicans to extort Google. And, if you give in, it will irritate the crap out of your users.

Margaret Buckingham



From: Dianne Davis
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Reject Google's request to modify its spam filters for Republicans
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 4:42:09 PM

Google wants to let political campaigns circumvent spam filters free of charge

I urge the FEC to reject Google's proposal. It's unlawful for Google to provide a unique service to political campaigns and not to its millions of other users.

The GOP has recently been heavily pressuring Google to modify its spam filters to benefit Republican campaigns. It is clear that the motivation for Google's proposal is its desire to meet the demands of Republican officeholders and corporate/tax code lawmakers.

Putting a thumb on the scale resulting in unchecked spam, subversion of facts is making potential victims of American voters. Google should not get special treatment as far what is cast into the internet and social networks influencing voters and inundating them with garbage spam.

Reject Google's proposal.

Thank you,

Dianne Davis

Venice, FL

Sent from my iPad

From: [L. McWhorter](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google LLC)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:17:30 PM

Please reject Google's proposal to allow unsolicited politically emails to bypass spam filters.

As a long-time user of Gmail , I already receive more unsolicited political spam than I care to via email, as well as telephone calls, text messages, and mailers. Having to deal with unsolicited communications of any sort is bothersome, but the nature of the political emails that slip through spam filters now is, frankly, disturbing. It is invariably filled with misinformation designed to rile people up, goading them to hate fellow citizens and act out on baseless propaganda.

Also, Google's Gmail is used both personally and professionally by people around the globe. Allowing Google to decide which politicians and political entities are allowed to have their messages sent without interruption would make Google the arbiter of what qualifies as valid political discourse. No individual or company should have such power.

Politicians and political action groups already have a variety of ways to get their message out to people, and people don't have to work very hard to find like-minded others. There is no need to grant Google the power to decide which politicians and groups are worthy of special consideration by people who simply want to use email to conduct personal or private business.

If this proposal passes, users may abandon Gmail in droves, but the potential for damage will still be too great. This request must be denied.

Thank you for your time,

L. McWhorter

From: [Jeananne Attardi](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 6:56:23 PM

Please do not to let this happen. It is not right.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kim Leonard](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:37:52 PM

I do not want fundraising emails that I have not specifically opted in to delivered to my inbox. Please stop this Republican effort.

- Kim Leonard

From: [Suzanne Tyrpak](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:52:14 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

Please do not allow Google to ease their spam filters for politicians. They're being pressured by Republicans to favor them.

Google already has way too much power.

Thank you,

Suzanne Tyrpak
Durango, CO 81301

Concerned citizen

From: [Gaerin Smith](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:55:11 PM

The FEC should be protecting the integrity of our elections, not allowing corporations to influence them. Reject Google's request.

Thank you
Gaerin

From: [josephyoung2](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:02:29 PM

I ask that the FEC reject Google's request to lessen spam restrictions.

Sincerely,

Joseph Young

From: [Judy Cochran](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:04:48 PM

To whom it may concern,
Allowing spam filters to be relaxed for political campaign propaganda is both irresponsible and dangerous. We have already seen how social media platforms have struggled with containing disinformation. We have already seen the consequences of this disinformation. To allow campaigns to now email propaganda directly to Google accounts with no means to monitor or control the content creates a situation where disinformation can prosper. Please block this.
Judy Hulmes-Cochran

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: [Tim Havel](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:22:35 PM

Do not regulate Google's spam filters for partisan purposes. PLEASE!!!

--

Timothy F. Have

Boston, MA

From: [Tim Havel](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:23:49 PM

Do not accept Google's request to alter its spam filters for partisan purposes. PLEASE!!!

--

Timothy F. Have

Boston, MA

From: [Debbie Weiss](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 5:56:01 AM

Please do not let political emails skip Gmail's spam filters. Thank you.

Best regards,

Debbie Weiss

From: [Patricia Hackett](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 6:54:34 PM

I object to Google's request to let political campaigns circumvent spam filters free of charge.

Please reject Google's proposal.

It is unlawful for Google to provide a unique service to political campaigns and not to its millions of other users.



From: [Nicole Purdom](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 : Reject Googles request
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:33:35 PM

To whom it may concern:

As a citizen of this country who receives FAR too many SPAM messages/emails—I implore the FEC to REJECT Googles request to allow more campaign emails or messages through Spam. Especially, when this request unilaterally favors one particular political party—the GOP.

It is your duty, as guardians of our online communications, to not allow a political party, or a corporation, to take advantage and inundate Americans with more Spam mail.

Therefore, I request that you reject Googles request to pass AO 2022-14.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,

A Concerned citizen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tom Avalon](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 Google
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:55:50 PM

re: AO 2022-14 (Google)

Hello ao@fec.gov,

Please reject Google's request to change their spam messaging filters to allow political ads into an ordinary e-mailbox.

Thank you,
Tom Avalon

Ripple in Still Water

From: [Brian Junk](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:05:24 PM

I am writing to oppose Google's request to loosen restrictions on spam for political email. There is no legitimate reason in the public interest to do this. It wrecks of corruption and favoritism for political parties. Who does the FEC serve, the American people or political parties?

From: [MJ King](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:54:05 PM

Referencing AO 2022-14
Republicans are trying to get their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters
DO NOT let this happen!

MJ King

From: [Mary Agnes Kendera](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:06:56 PM

Do not allow Republican party's emails to skip Gmail's spam filters.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michelle Napoli](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Comments on AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:41:42 PM

To our FEC Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Google's request referenced as AO 2022-14.

I am strongly opposed to Google's efforts to allow political spam to bypass its otherwise strong spam filters, and urge you to deny the company's request.

Let me start by saying, my email inbox is *not* a public arena.

My Gmail inbox is an essential daily business tool as a self-employed individual. Having to wade through the dozens of SPAM emails I receive every day to mark them manually as the garbage they are, is both an unproductive use of my time and an often maddening exercise.

To quantify the magnitude of the problem for you, I logged one week's worth of SPAM. Please see the summary below. Mercifully, this is currently separated from my legitimate email, but that will no longer be the case for the bulk of these SPAM emails if you approve Google's request.

July 22, 2022 SPAM

Total: 76 **Repub: 17** **Dem: 36** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 9** Non-political: 14

July 23, 2022 SPAM

Total: 47 **Repub: 13** **Dem: 26** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 4** Non-political: 4

July 24, 2022 SPAM

Total: 51 **Repub: 13** **Dem: 24** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 6** Non-political: 8

July 25, 2022 SPAM

Total: 70 **Repub: 12** **Dem: 30** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 9** Non-political: 19

July 26, 2022 SPAM

Total: 56 **Repub: 13** **Dem: 32** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 1** Non-political: 10

July 27, 2022 SPAM

Total: 56 **Repub: 15** **Dem: 33** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 3** **Non-political: 5**

July 28, 2022 SPAM

Total: 54 **Repub: 13** **Dem: 31** **Bipartisan/I'm giving benefit of the doubt: 3** **Non-political: 7**

One-Week Grand Total: 410 SPAM emails, 343 of which were political

As you can see, the vast majority of SPAM I am daily inundated with is of a political nature. It comes from the left and the right - frankly, more so from the left. But whether the source is "red" or "blue" is beside the point. The point is, I do not want SPAM clogging up my email inbox.

SPAM is SPAM is SPAM, and it belongs in the SPAM folder.

I urge you to deny Google's request to allow political spam to bypass its otherwise strong spam filters.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration,
Michelle N.

From: [Arlene Sheskin](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google request
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:48:20 PM

Please reject google's request to allow political parties freer access. Arlene Sheskin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathy Edwards](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Google
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:43:39 PM

As a citizen and taxpayer, I am truly concerned about AO 2022-14. Our nation is already reeling and our democracy is teetering on the brink of failure since the inception of Citizens United. We can't take anymore. It is imperative that our gov't employees, who work for US, who are beholden to each individual citizen by virtue of receiving a paycheck from our taxes, work to see that the wishes of the PEOPLE are manifested.

I strongly urge you to vote NO on this.

Respectfully,

Kathy Edwards.

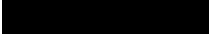
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [jennifer.jones](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Re matter of AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:24:57 PM

Dear FEC,

I am completely against AO 2022-14 in which you will allow Google to allow one party to benefit by easing restrictions so they can spam our inboxes. This is outrageous. Please do not allow this to happen.

Jennifer Jones


Falmouth, ME 04105

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sheila Avruch](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Re: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:39:12 PM

Hi FEC,

As a user of gmail, I do not want political emails that are spam in my inbox. I want them to go straight to spam. Please allow Google to send them to spam where they belong.

Thank you,
Sheila Avruch
Fairfax VA

From: [Marc Clupper](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: RE: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:10:12 PM

Recommendation to reject proposal as it is not conducive to good governance.

Regards,
G. Marc Clupper
Hampstead, NC 28443-2143

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From: [Kimberly Lau](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Re: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:02:12 PM

Hello,

I am a concerned US citizen who currently uses Gmail, and I am quite satisfied with the quality of my spam filters. It has come to my attention that a certain demographic of political strategists are trying to legislate Google's control over their spam filters, instead of using best practices to avoid the spam filters. I'll be honest with you, political spam of any stripe is still just spam to me, and I will chuck them all into the trash. I am grateful that Google does much of the work for me, because I DO NOT want to see political spam. Please review this article: <https://www.techdirt.com/2022/07/14/the-public-hates-the-idea-pushed-by-gop-political-spammers-that-google-will-let-political-spam-bypass-spam-filters/> - which does a pretty good deep dive on why political spammers are wrong, and should focus on either being better email stewards, or come up with non-hateful policies that can be convincing on their own merits, instead of spamming inboxes multiple times throughout the day.

Please do not allow AO 2022-14 (Google LLC) - Draft A to go any further. My inbox will thank you for it.

Thank you,
Kimberly Lau

From: [Amber White](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Cc: [Amber White](#)
Subject: Reference: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:08:27 PM

Dear FEC:

Please reject Google's request to modify spam filters for campaigns. It is clearly intended to benefit the GOP. We already have unsubstantiated claims of Election fraud and unprecedented gerrymandering, why on earth would the FEC be seriously considering allowing another rupture in the integrity of free and fair Elections?

Sincerely,

Amber White

Sent from my iPhone

From: [C.Grey](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Regarding AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:03:27 PM

Good evening,

Regarding AO 2022-14, Google's request to exempt some political emails from Gmail's spam filter:

Absolutely not.

The political emails I receive are all unsolicited and unwanted. The senders tend to ignore opt-out list and unsubscribe requests. These emails are the exact sort of messages I depend on email spam filters to deal with, so I don't have to waste my time and attention sorting through them. If you allow this, it will set a precedent for other organizations to request similar exemptions. If someone **wants** to receive an email from a political entity, that individual can go through the process of white-listing the address - just like Gmail requires for any other mass-email product.

Please, PLEASE deny this request.

most sincerely,
Christine Grey

From: [Erik Larson](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Reject AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:28:00 PM

The non-partisan government watchdog group citizens for responsibility and ethics in Washington has filed a complaint regarding google's request, and I also urge the FEC to deny Google request.

The CREW press release states:

“ Under federal law, corporations may provide services to registered political entities on the same terms and conditions available to the general public. By only lifting its general spam features for registered political entities, however, Google would be providing a unique service to registered political entities but not to Google's millions of other users.”
<https://www.citizensforethics.org/legal-action/legal-complaints/crew-submits-comment-to-fec-on-googles-proposal-to-permit-political-campaign-spam/>

From: [Fran Walker](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Reject Google's request AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:48:12 PM

AO 2022-14 Must be rejected!
Fran Walker

Thankful to be fully vaccinated.

From: [paula.missi](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Spam filters
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:02:11 PM

Sent from my iPhone

From: DKM
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:13:45 PM

Hello,

I've been informed that the sender of spam messages addressed by this AO has found a way around the filter. Please investigate and prevent this from occurring.

Thank you!
Dorothy K Mejia
Arlington, TX 76017

From: Tina Crenshaw
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 8:41:08 PM

I strongly urge you to reject Google's request to let political campaigns circumvent spam filters. Strongly!!! The last thing we need is unsolicited political campaign emails invading our inboxes.

Tina Crenshaw

From: Valerie Hale
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 12:00:01 AM

Hello,

Please reject Google's request.

Thank you

Evan & Valerie Hale

From: Tonya Anton
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:38:30 PM

I am urging you to reject Google's request to loosen their rules on political spam.

From: Gemma
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:07:44 PM

Please do not allow Republicans or any public figure/ group/ organization to allow their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters.

They work for US. All communication must be public.

Gemma Kevany Milton, MA 02186

From: Wellington Lee
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:35:36 PM

To whom it may concern:

Regarding AO 2022-14, I strongly oppose google's request to allow political campaigns to circumvent spam filters.

If allowed, the floodgates of misinformation would be blown wide open, and influence voters with lies.

Sincerely,

Wellington Lee

From: Dorothy Frisch
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:47:05 PM

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal to allow political parties to bypass the spam filter on Google.
Very much opposed!
Dorothy Frisch

From: [REDACTED]
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14: Google advisory request regarding political email
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 9:36:02 PM

I strongly OPPOSE Google's plan for a pilot program to stop treating political email as SPAM for the following reasons:

- * This will be free advertising and promotion, constituting illegal contributions.
- * FREE media advertising is considered a political contribution.
- * This free advertising will allow even more misrepresentation of facts, which is destroying our political system & country, and will be deceptive and confusing to citizens.
- * Campaign donation emails have already shown to be fraudulent, purporting for supporting campaigns but have been used mostly for legal defense of crimes that are just now coming to light. RNC also publicly stated donations used for Trump's legal defense will be stopped if he runs in 2024.

- * The opt-out process won't work because emails can be sent from an UNLIMITED number of email addresses from an UNLIMITED number of organizations.
- * The opt-out process imposes a huge, likely unmanageable, burden on citizens.
- * For many, the political emails may outnumber personal emails.

- * Users essentially opted-out after receiving emails by marking them as SPAM. Google adds them to their spam list when large numbers of users do that.
- * Users can receive email from what would otherwise be considered spam by adding organizations to their contact list or email filter.
- * I believe that the vast majority of consumers will hate receiving unsolicited political emails.
- * Many citizens, especially the ELDERLY, will have difficulty understanding the opt-out process, and will be overwhelmed by the flood of emails.
- * Google provides users a fixed amount of storage for email and files, including photos. As unwanted emails accumulate, users will run out of space.
- * More political spam email passed to users will open up more avenues for spamming, phishing and fraud.

I URGE the FEC to NOT ALLOW this proposed change in Google's handling of spam.

Richard Atlas
Deerfield Beach, FL

<<https://mailfoogae.appspot.com/t?sender=acmljaGFyZEBtYWlsLXhwcmVzcy5jb20%3D&type=zerocontent&guid=bddc0a26-eedd-48f6-8430-05f715d4e81c>> ·

From: Cary Dier
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 20220-14 (Google) - Comment
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:56:40 PM

I'm writing to urge you to reject Google's request to loosen the rules on political spam, for several reasons. First, I don't see why political campaigns should get special treatment in this situation. Second, it appears that the primary intended beneficiaries are campaigns of Republicans only, in response to pressure from the GOP, which makes this sort of move the *opposite* of what the FEC is supposed to be about. Third, as a GMail user, I can - and do - check my spam folder to see if there are things I want to retrieve, including in some cases political campaign emails, and I'm perfectly capable of continuing to do so for those and all other emails.

Thank you for your consideration of my comment.
Cary Dier

From: Phebe Watson
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Gmail's proposal to send political emails directly to inboxes instead of SPAM
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 12:07:08 AM

Ladies/Gentlemen:

I am writing regarding AO2022-14. I do not want Gmail to send political emails directly to my inbox. I already receive about 100 new emails every day. I feel like I'm being buried in them. If political emails are sent to SPAM, it is easier for me to review them when I have time to do so and decide which ones I want to read and whether I want to respond to them.

If there is any truth to the Republicans' claim that they are being discriminated against -- and I sincerely doubt that there is -- I would guess that this would be because they have a penchant for spreading dis-information and misinformation to a greater extent than do their Democratic opponents. Though neither party can claim to be completely innocent when it comes to "stretching the truth" at times, Republicans have a tendency to be vicious when describing the policies and proposals of anyone who does not agree with them. They also often make claims without any facts to back them up.

Allowing G-mail to remove all its "filters" for political emails would be doing a great disservice to their customers!! I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal. Thank you!!

Sincerely,

Phebe Watson -- Retired Educator, Buncombe County, NC

From: RoseMarie
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: RE: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:26:01 PM

As a computer and cell phone user, concerned citizen, and tax payer, I urge you to reject Google's request to allow political texts and messaging to be sent to my inbox and cell phone, both of which I paid for and have a right to decide what is and what isn't acceptable communication for me to receive. Furthermore, to allow Google or any other entity to send political texts or emails as messaging to the American public will potentially be used unfairly to assist one party over another depending on many factors, including personal agendas and money to buy that assistance.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

RoseMarie Dorer

[REDACTED]

Warrenton, VA 20187-4548

[REDACTED]

From: Jody Wheeler
To: [AO](#)
Subject: referencing AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 7:08:03 PM

Please do not approve this so that Republicans get their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters.

Thank you-
Jody

From: Larry Dighera
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Referencing AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 7:42:56 AM

Please don't let AO 2022-14 (Google) happen.

From: Melissa Mills
To: [AO](#)
Subject: referencing AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 6:58:42 PM

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!!!

Melissa Leanne Mills


From: Jessica Teal
To: [AO](#)
Subject: reject google proposition AO 2022-14
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 5:56:10 PM

google's proposition AO 2022-14 must be rejected because the FEC should be protecting the integrity of our elections, not allowing corporations to influence them.

jess

From: Joe and Carolyn Prince
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Republicans are trying to get their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters. You can stop this. Email the FEC at ao@fec.gov, referencing AO 2022-14 (Google), and tell them not to let this happen.
Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 6:59:51 PM

Do not let Republicans skip past Gmail spam filters.

Joe Prince

From: neil shargel
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 1:35:30 PM

I urge you to reject Google's request to let political campaigns circumvent spam filters.

I feel online ads and statements of questionable veracity have already been shown to have a detrimental effect on our democracy and we certainly don't need to make it easier for political organisations to inundate the public with more biased content which ends up adding fuel to an already burning landscape.

Thank you,

Neil Shargel

From: Holly Glaser
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 1:16:40 AM

To the FEC

Do not grant Googled request to send spam political emails in large volume to users of Gmail.

Just because they own the system of email, they do not have authority to drown valid emails in a flood of crap. This is a propaganda tactic designed to make ppl feel that nothing is true, and stop voting. Then comes violence.
Holly Glaser

From: Amy Harren
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 1:20:31 AM

Please reject allowing additional spam to our emails.

Email is a critical method of valid and important communication. To flood inboxes with spam compromise's it's viability!

Amy

From: Jeffrey Staggs
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 4:57:29 AM

To whom it may concern:

It has come to my attention that Google wishes to loosen the rules on political spam email. Please do not allow this.
Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Staggs

From: Stu F
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 6:17:04 AM

Reject Google's request

From: Janis Dauer
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022 7:21:16 AM

I do not want my email inbox flooded with spam and am urging you not to loosen the rules for Google allowing them to let political campaigns circumvent spam filters. There are laws to prevent such spam emails and political parties should not be exempt from them. Please reject Google's request!
Janis Dauer

From: Swogjan Heaven
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 8:59:03 AM

DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN: Republicans are trying to get their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters.

From: Kathleen Bayly
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 Google
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 12:19:21 PM

DO NOT allow Google to circumvent my spam filter with political ads! This is ridiculous. The next thing you know, they'll be sending me religious content.

It's the responsibility of the FEC to prevent Google from spamming me with political ads.

Kathleen Bayly

From: Margaret Marsh
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: google proposal
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 11:26:05 AM

FEC

Please do not approve Google's proposal about political campaign spam. It's insidious! We already get enough spam and political campaigns should not be allowed to push more spam into our email.

Respectfully,
Margaret Marsh

From: [Margy Brombacher](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 8:56:37 AM

DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN: Republicans are trying to get their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters.

From: [Kaleb Nyquist](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 10:28:01 AM

Dear Chair Dickerson and the FEC Advisory Opinion team,

I am concerned about the proposal in the Advisory Opinion (AO 2022-14) based on Google's request to loosen rules on political spam. This seem deferential to the sort of noisy politics that does not contribute to fostering the true deliberation needed for democracy to thrive, nor does it seem consistent with established federal law that corporations may provide services to political entities only on the same terms as their services are made available to the general public.

Please reject AO Request 2022-14. My inbox and I thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Kaleb Nyquist

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From: [Doug Heiken](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 3:45:59 PM

Dear FEC:

Please reject Google's request to relax the restrictions on political spam.

Granting Google's request will adversely affect people's lives and businesses with irrelevant and unnecessary email traffic, and granting Google's request will affect the parties unequally, because one is much more prone to generating political spam.

Doug Heiken
Eugene ,Oregon
voter, gmail user

From: [Outernets](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 4:12:27 PM

I humbly submit that Google's request to exempt political emails from spam filters is unlawful, harms the integrity of online communication, and should be rejected.

Sincerely,
Brendan Regan



Jermyn, PA

From: [Gordon Leacock](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Cc: [Gordon Leacock](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 5:27:24 PM

Don't allow filter bypassing by any political groups or campaigns, please!

Thank you!

Gordon Leacock (cell phone)

From: [MAB](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 (Google)
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 8:55:08 AM

DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN: Republicans are trying to get their emails to skip Gmail's spam filters.

From: [Arden Trevino](#)
To: [AO](#)
Cc: COMMENTS@whitehouse.gov
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 6:32:33 PM

Dear Office of General Counsel,

As a google user, both in my business and personally, I object to Google's request to allow political activism to by-pass its spam filters. We are seeing an unprecedented attack on truth, particularly in relation to political elections. Therefore allowing sidestepping of Google spam filters, bad actors (PACs) will have an easier ability to spread disinformation and lies to the public.

I also do not want my google business email address to receive countless unsolicited emails regarding political campaigns. Nor do I want to be responsible for clicking through the process of declining these emails; it is wasteful of my time and patience and has the potential to interfere with the services that I offer.

It is your job, as a federal elections department, to consider the negative impact on the average citizen and not how much easier it is for entities to intrude on civilians' privacy via email.

It is very easy for anyone to "join" a mailing list for any candidate - much easier than trying to remove a multitude of unwanted spam from a private email account.

Thank you for your consideration. I will be watching this issue closely.

--

Arden Trevino



From: [Honey DeLapa](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Friday, August 5, 2022 11:50:51 AM

We urge you to reject Google's request for special treatment in regards to political campaign email. We do not want more spam clogging our systems and trying to influence elections.

The FEC should be protecting the integrity of our elections, not allowing corporations to influence them.

Thank you.

Marjorie and Frank DeLapa

[REDACTED]

Hilton, NY 14468