



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

FROM: Office of the Commission Secretary *LC*

DATE: July 20, 2022

SUBJECT: AO 2022-14 (Google LLC) 100 Individual Comments

Attached are 100 individual comments on AO 2022-14 (Google LLC).

Attachment

RECEIVED

By Office of the Commission Secretary at 2:07 pm, Jul 20, 2022

From: [Spencer Baker](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Advisory Opinion 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 12:08:56 PM

Please do not approve this request from Google (AO 2022-14) which would allow Google to have some FEC-registered political / candidate committees no longer subject to SPAM detection. This would cause an unnecessary burden on Gmail users to have to manually mark these unsolicited messages as SPAM, one by one. Regardless of the political party, I do not want to receive these uninvited emails.

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Spencer R. Baker

From: [Big Harb](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Advisory Opinion 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 12:38:01 PM

Please do not approve this request from Google (AO 2022-14) which would allow Google to have some FEC-registered political / candidate committees no longer subject to SPAM detection. This would cause an unnecessary burden on Gmail users to have to manually mark these unsolicited messages as SPAM, one by one. Regardless of the political party, I do not want to receive these uninvited emails.

Thank you for this opportunity to respond.

Michael Harbert

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Mark Rozanski](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Advisory Opinion AO 2022-14 — Google Mail
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:59:07 PM

Dear Commissioners —

Regarding the proposal pending before the FEC. Which would permit Google to unwind its Gmail spam filters when political candidates or PACs email Gmail users for donations. Or generally try to contact persons through Gmail.

This is a terrible idea, full stop.

It is a potential huge intrusion on privacy rights. And it is a highly inappropriate subsidy for political activity -- since Gmail is underwritten by Google ad space.

If approved, hundreds of millions of Gmail users like me can expect to be bombarded by unasked-for political solicitations landing in our inboxes. We are drowning in unwanted mail and spam mail as it is. Allowing political parties and/or fringe political movements to pile it on in our Gmail inboxes is a self-evidently bad idea.

The FEC should nix this proposal.

M Rozanski

From: [PAUL CRONIN](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 - Vote No!!!
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:27:21 PM

I am opposed to exempting political email/ads from email spam filtering in Gmail.

THIS WOULD BE AWFUL!

Just vote NO!!!

Thank you,
Paul Cronin
Melrose, MA 02176

From: [Peter D. Taylor](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 comment
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 11:47:39 AM

I take strong objection to having Google white list political emails in its spam filters. I only wish to receive these if I opt in. This would be a massive step back in controlling my mailbox.

P Taylor

From: [Katie Jean](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14 exempting some political emails in Gmail from spam
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:37:14 PM

As a long time gmail user, I have been pretty happy with your services thus far. However, if you were to exempt political emails from spam, I would be livid and would most likely look for another email provider. It is bad enough that I am subjected to the unrelenting campaign ads on my TV, but to have unsolicited email coming from politicians (some from people I don't even support) would be unacceptable.

It is one thing if I sign up for emails from people affiliated with my party because I would have made the choice to do so. But if I were to start receiving unrestrained emails from politicians not even from my party that I can't stand (such as Ron DeSantis or Donald Trump), I would be disgusted. Also, I would heavily resent having to mark each one as spam (one by one) myself.

Please do not change the current spam preferences. Besides, if you were to do this it would look like Google was providing a large political donation to every politician sending emails to Gmail addresses. Don't give in to the Republican party (because I know they are behind this).

Sincerely,
Kathleen Hudson

From: [Chris Hoag](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:30:49 PM

I firmly object to Google's proposal to send political ads through email to my Gmail inbox by not having them marked as spam.

Anything political is spam and needs to be filtered out.

Chris

J. Chris Hoag
Hoag Riparian & Wetland Restoration LLC
American Falls, ID

From: [Seth Kaplan](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:16:01 PM

I do not want Google to change its technology to allow political emails to bypass its spam filters. Please do not do this!

From: [Annie Ellicott](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 12:13:10 PM

Dear FEC Commissioner,

I am adamantly opposed to Google GMAIL allowing the following to occur: Gmail emails from some FEC-registered political committees would "not be affected by forms of spam detection to which they would otherwise be subject."

How is this even allowable under current anti SPAM policy/law? Why would anyone open this pandora's box? It's a slippery slope. Don't support it please.

Thank you,

Annie Ellicott
President - Leapup Marketing Solutions



From: [Stewart Epstein](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:14:04 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to vehemently oppose the measure by Google to allow political messages to be considered non-spam and bypass spam filters.

Essentially this would allow Google to provide a large political donation to every politician sending emails to Gmail addresses (possible even in violation of laws governing political donations).

In addition to the risk of further polarizing our already divided country, it can cause tremendous harm to less tech savvy individuals and the elderly who are already confused and distress by existing political emails. Please, for the sake of the country and the citizens within it, VOTE NO, on this proposal.

Respectfully,

Stewart Epstein

From: [Keith Montross](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:39:51 PM

please PLEASE **PLEASE** don't let Google send political emails. There is enough nonsense going on in the political arena without having something stupid like that add gasoline to an already raging inferno!!

Keith Montross
Honolulu, HI

From: [Barry Glading](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:51:29 PM

Please do not approve this request.

Thank you

Regards

Barry Glading

From: [Susan Galbraith](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO- 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 11:50:41 AM

I do not want to receive any more unsolicited email than I already receive and delete on a daily basis.

Political email! Please NO!!!

Susan Galbraith

[REDACTED]

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Susan Galbraith

[REDACTED]

From: [John P. McGlennon](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: RE: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:56:36 PM

Absolutely not. How is this even being considered?

From: [Marite Mantilla](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Reference number of Google's request: "AO 2022-14."
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:32:36 PM

Dear sirs,

In reference to Google's request: "AO 2022-14.", I respectfully request that you do not approve it, as it will harm the consumers.

Thanks for your consideration,

Marite Mantilla

From: [Injuneer](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Reference: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:54:16 PM

DO NOT APPROVE

We are already inundated with political commercials through TV, RADIO, CABLE, etc. and do not need any more. eMail is much like a conversation where we should be allowed to govern what we do and not want to receive. Granting this request will be a further invasion of privacy and an unethical burden on us to pay attention to those we want nothing to do with.

DO NOT APPROVE

From: [REDACTED]
To: [AO](#)
Subject: STOP gmail from allowing political spam
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:00:33 PM

Please do not allow gmail to allow political spam and bypass filters.
I am already on the verge of disconnecting from email altogether, as we are completely inundated with unsolicited messages and requests for donations.

Thank you -
Jenee Whitener

[REDACTED]
Garland , TX 75044

From: Beth
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: "AO 2022-14." PLEASE, NO!
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:45:12 PM

Are we Americans not suffering enough right now?

We have always had sweet Google to count on for interaction that didn't drag us into exhausting arenas we are fighting ALL DAY elsewhere.

PLEASE BE THE GOOGLE WE CAN COUNT ON, OUR GOOGLE, OUR PLACE OF REST! DON'T DO IT!

From: Bill Anderson
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022 - 14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:20:03 PM

Please do not permit promotional or political messages from either party to penetrate the privacy of my gmail account.

As a working person, who relies on my Gmail account as an essential business communications tool, allowing unsolicited political messages to invade my inbox will drastically disrupt my efficiency and the effectiveness of my effort to do business with my customers.

Sincerely,

W A Anderson

Longboat Key, FL 34228

Sent from my iPhone

From: Zach Kelley
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:42:27 AM

Given that google's spam filters are trained on sample sets created by customers clicking "this is spam" so the system knows what spam looks like.

Perhaps if politicians would start sending out email that has actual informational content and would actually be of interest to people far less of us would click "spam" when we see it.

This is a nothing issue created by a group of politicians who are upset that their garbage is being labeled garbage and thrown away accordingly.

If anything, spam filtering should be even more effective at blocking this, not less. Maybe extend it to all phone lines in the united states so I can quit telling volunteers to quit calling me thrice weekly.

From: Jane Lotus Chong
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:23:13 PM

I vehemently object to Google's request to exempt political emails from spam. Please do not grant this request.

From: Anthony Elder
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:49:46 PM

Please do not allow this change. Gmail's spam folder is the only thing that keeps me using Gmail.

Thank you!

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Sincerely,

C. Anthony Elder

"Each and every day, we have a choice to either love that person that's in front of us or not. It's the relationships that you build over the years that is the most important thing in life. Everything else is just an illusion."

From: Luis Collado
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:06:19 PM

I would like by this means, to express my strong opposition to Google's request to remove political email from inclusion in its spam filter. As it currently stands we are already deluged with all types of spam. Removing this type of content from the filters will lead to far more unsolicited and inaccurate information reaching the regular users of Gmail. Please DO NOT grant Google's request.

Luis E. Collado

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"Those who make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities..." Voltaire

From: Ajay Singh
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:05:27 PM

In regards to the proposed change to Gmail spam detection to allow political correspondence, please deny these changes. We should be able to protect ourselves from unsolicited correspondence, especially those from PACs.

Ajay S. Singh, PhD

..... $\frac{\overline{0}}{\overline{1} < \overline{0}}$ / $\frac{\overline{0}}{\overline{1} < \overline{0}}$ $\frac{\overline{0}}{\overline{1} < \overline{0}}$ / $\frac{\overline{0}}{\overline{1} < \overline{0}}$

From: John Potter
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:11:34 PM

DO NOT GRANT THIS PROPOSAL! I dont know what horrible person came up with this idea but it should be hidden in the deepest bowels of the earth and never see the light of day again.
At a time when the FCC is trying to lower spam calls, texts, emails etc. Why would we want to increase or tamper with spam filters already in place and doing a great job?
Once again, DO NOT GRANT THIS PROPOSAL!

Thanks,
John Potter

From: Ron Shaffer
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:20:07 PM

To whom it may concern:

Please do not allow Google to exempt political emails from their spam filtering. Americans are already drowning in spam, and the last thing we need is to have another tidal wave of junk mail landing in our inboxes.

Please deny the Google request.

Thank you,


Ron Shaffer
Fort Collins. Colorado

From: Caribill
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:49:18 PM

NO! No! A 1000 times no!

If this proposal goes through, I will vote against any candidate that has such an E-mail reaching my inbox.

William Greene


League City, TX 77573

From: Brandon Lacy
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:52:46 PM

My opinion is that google is already in violation of anti-trust laws and is a national security concern. This request validates it, again. Google is literally and factually attempting to meddle in the voting process.

Reject this proposal and all attempts to do anything similar.

From: Erik Tiedt
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:24:19 PM

I do not want to deal with ever more crud in my inbox. I'm quite capable of being informed on politics without a constant barrage of political propaganda and calls for donations constantly being pushed to my phone notifications. Do not remove the spam filters for political emails

From: Jeremy Daus
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:43:20 PM

I absolutely do not want more crap email, despite Republican objections...I don't want them!!

If you'd like to register your opinion, you can do so by sending an email to ao@fec.gov, and including the reference number of Google's request: "AO 2022-14."

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Sent from my iPhone

From: Rita@AmeriSus
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 2:33:34 AM

Absolutely not. Goggle's request will KILL the internet

Sent from my iPad

From: Janell Tansey
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 7:21:42 AM

Please do not let google send political spam (or any spam) to my inbox. Please. Stop this utterly stupid idea.

Janell Tansey

From: Lacey Thomas
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:00:54 AM

I wanted to add my opinion on the proposed change to gmail.
I am against the changes. I receive enough unsolicited emails, I do not want more.
For once, please consider the regular everyday people who use gmail, and not politics and big money.
Thank you,
Lacey Thomas

From: Barbie
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO-2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:42:51 PM

please do not let Google make this change.

its bad enough most of my calls to my home phone are spam, even though I'm on the "do not call" list, now my email will be filled with spam

I check my spam folder periodically and ensure those that aren't spam are moved to my inbox.

do you know how many emails we'd get before an election?

Please do not allow this change.

its simply a money maker at the expense of everyday Americans who have enough to do without spending their free time deleting political ads they dont want

thank you for your help.

Barbara Dorsey
[REDACTED]
Kirkland, WA 98034

From: Carol Collins
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Gmail and political emails
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:31:04 PM

Please do not permit this to occur. I am deluged with phone calls, emails, postal service mailings already. I do not need and definitely do not want another avenue for political groups to harass me & hound me for money.

Carol Collins


From: Lizy Larkins
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Google Request AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:03:10 PM

I have several gmail accounts and I already get overwhelmed with unsolicited emails. I do not want to have manually flag and unsubscribe to political emails.

I implore that this request get denied. There is little or no benefit to gmail account users to have unsolicited political emails to come into their inboxes, it is spam.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lisa
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google SPAM and Political Ads. "AO 2022-14."
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 2:09:30 PM

Please add my voice to the rejection of this idea of GOOGLE'S to send SPAM from political organizations to inboxes without the ability to have them intercepted by the SPAM filter - I have no interest in fielding ads and manually requesting they be put individually into a folder.

Additionally, I do not wish to become a marketing tool to inform political parties record how customers of GOOGLE receive / respond to their ads.

Sincerely,
Lisa Sadler

From: Cathie Wynn
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:08:47 PM

Please refrain Google from sending more spam emails to my email box

From: Leslie Stone
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google's request: "AO 2022-14"
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:43:19 PM

Do Not Grant this request!

Thank you!

Leslie S. Stone
Stone Strategies, LLC



Sent from my iPhone

From: Bradley Lupo
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google's request: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 9:34:21 PM

This is garbage and we don't want this spam. We already deal with spam calls and don't want the emails to go along with them

From: Paula Walker
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: In regards to Google's request AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:20:11 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

THIS SHOULD ABSOLUTELY NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN. This is a political solicitation and I for one do not want these in my inbox. DO NOT allow this to happen.

Sincerely,

Paula Walker, holder of a gmail account

From: Elizabeth Keeling
To: [AO](#)
Subject: No re. AO 2022-14 !! ... No! No! Ninety million times no!
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:06:35 PM

Regarding AO 2022-14 — this is a terrible idea! There are already way too many things wrong with email gmail, spam, and internet use!

No, no, no, don't ever allow this!!!
- Elizabeth Keeling

From: Lilli Emily Ross
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Please deny Gmail the right to send us political spam
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:25:13 PM

Dear FEC members,

Thank you for taking the time to review my comments regarding Gmail's plan to allow political spam to proliferate. I am strongly against this proposal for a number of reasons.

Political spam would increase the chances of brainwashing vulnerable American citizens, which is already a huge concern because of social media and "news" channels (which have been determined not to be actual, factual news at all, but that doesn't stop people from believing it is). Misinformation is at an all-time high, and we do not need one more source of it to add to the mess we're in.

Conservatives claim that Gmail unfairly ushers their political emails into the spam folder, but this is just more complaining from a party that does nothing but complain about being treated unfairly when the opposite is true. The last thing any of us need is more emails clogging up our inbox or delivering false messages to us disguised in the form of helpful political information.

We do not want, nor do we need, emails that we didn't sign up for. To the contrary, these messages could prove quite harmful to the already-shaky ground on which we stand as a society. Now is the time for the FEC to strengthen regulations on political communications, no open citizens up to even more rampant political messaging.

Sincerely,
Lilli Ross

From: Jessica
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Please do not allow political spam
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:16:21 PM

I ask the Federal Election Commission to stop Gmail from allowing political spam.

Gmail's proposal would give an unfair advantage to the Republican Party and the Democratic Party.

Thank you,
Jessica Heiden

From: Charlotte Whitlock
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Political spam
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:19:18 PM

To whom it may concern:

As a member of the gmail internet service the last thing I want is to have my mailbox suddenly filled with shall we say "questionable" statements by obsequious political sycophants who will believe or spread lies or half truths they are encouraged to disseminate to the ill informed voters. My mailbox is being filled with up to 600+ unwanted unsolicited emails a week from various political groups. I am an independent moderat. This writer has degree work in politics, international studies, research, being taught by my professors there numerous points of view to listen, read, research & look for that string that appears in more than one article, dissertation & that is the truth. Not to mention I have common sense.

Respectfully,
Charlotte Whitlock

From: Todd Gantzer
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Re: AO 2022-14.
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 6:38:25 AM

I don't want more political emails in my gmail.

Thanks.

From: Yanone
To: [AO](#)
Subject: RE: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:19:24 PM

This is to object to Google's plan with political emails.

From: Tom Feitel
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Re: Google AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:09:28 PM

As someone who uses four different gmail addresses for business and personal purposes, my feedback on this is unequivocally no. I already receive a ridiculous amount of spam and consider political solicitation no different than penis enlargement, Asian brides, Nigerian princes, McAfee security threats and 1000 other insults and injuries to my intelligence that besiege me daily. If it weren't for a spam filter I'd literally drown in the muck.

Do not make me undertake the manual labor up to four times for every nitwit political message some bot is instructed to sling. Aren't we better/smarter than this?

Tom Feitel

From: Alex
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Re: Upgrade your website..
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 9:28:04 AM

Hi

You are awesome. But, is your website as awesome as it can get?

If you do not have visitors stopping by to have a look and say “Wow,” YOU ARE DOING IT WRONG!

The world has grown smarter and there’s no way you can impress them with your mediocrity.

Join the EXTRAORDINARY Revolution with us!

Who are we?

AstoundEdge , a 7-year-old full service Website Design and Development agency that wears multiple hats-each with several feathers to boast about our success. We are Crazy. We are Fools. We Don’t Know Business. We just know one thing- CREATIVITY!

What do we do? We do

We do everything Design, be it

- * Website design
- * Website Development
- * Mobile Apps
- * ResponsiveDesign
- * Ecommerce Website Design
- * Landing Page Design
- * Collaterals
- * Email Templates
- * Videos
- * E Books
- * Infographics

Our portfolio: 

Why us?

Because you will never ask this once you have tried us!

Curious? Drop a reply to this mail and we will hop on the opportunity to get in touch.

Best,

Alex

Business Development Manager
AstoundEdge Inc.

In case you are NOT INTERESTED, reply with "UNSUBSCRIBE" and we'll have you removed from our database, don't worry!

From: Nicky&Denise Phipps
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Reference AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:51:35 AM

If there's truth to the article I got this reference from please deny Google's request. Why would anyone think that a techgeek from Google should be deciding what political emails someone receives? How about this plan-block ALL political content emails except ones the receiver has LEGITIMATELY signed up to receive.

Sent from my iPad

From: [benjamin barber](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: 2022-14 google request for advisory opinion by the FEC.
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:52:48 PM

I have noticed that google and its employees have engaged in a campaign to benefit one candidate over another, such as when Eric Schmidt formed a company called "the groundwork" https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Groundwork to assist hillary clinton in her campaign, while simultaneously censoring information in its products critical to hillary clinton which was released by the organization Wikileaks.

Therefore it is my concern that Google will use a set of arbitrary criteria that are open to subjective analysis, to favor some candidates over others based upon their ideology. It may very well be that google would consider its terms of use or "illegal". One example would be the dissemination of information about hunter biden's laptop or ashley biden's diary, which it may consider to be "illegal content", which for example Project Veritas has been accused of "misprision of a felony" for the dissemination of allegedly stolen materials. However these materials present serious issues of public interest, with regards to selling influence over Joe Biden by Hunter Biden.

There are also other ways that the company could portray messages as illegal, for example about the election fraud investigations, of which I had personally located dead voters voting in pennsylvania as "incitement to riot" or "sedition" or "seditious conspiracy". Moreover ideas such as "build the wall" might be portrayed as a violation of international human rights, to deny people asylum in the United States, or messages promoting or banning abortion depending on the state, i.e. conspiracy to violate human rights or conspiracy to engage in abortion.

Moreover I do not see anything about the "program requirements" and while they may not be directly targeting a political party, they may be able to indirectly target a political party based on the ideological content of that party. See e.g. the User Content and Conduct Policy <https://support.google.com/googlecurrents/answer/9680387?hl=en> see also "hate speech policy" <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2801939> see also Election Misinformation policy <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10835034> Cyberbullying policy <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802268>

As such, I believe that these "viewpoint based restrictions of speech" are the most egregious types of censorship under our constitution, and that google's use of these policies while not targeting parties on their face, should be analyzed under a disparate impact analysis, so as to not discriminate against parties and their candidates.

From: [Gina Hale](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Advisory Opinion 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:44:52 PM

Dear FEC Director,

I'm writing to ask that the agency **not** approve Google's request (AO 2022-14).

Google's request would remove the SPAM detection safeguards and allow some FEC-registered political / candidate committees unfettered access to Google subscribers through their Gmail accounts.

It would be an unconscionable burden to require Gmail users to manually delete, one-by-one, all such unsolicited messages from all personal Gmail accounts. Many Gmail subscribers have more than one Gmail account.

The existing SPAM detection safeguards should remain in place and even be strengthened.

Irrespective of the political party, I do not want to receive these unsolicited/ uninvited emails.

Thank you for your kind consideration of my response.

Gina L. Hale


Rockwall, TX 75032

From: [John Hannafin](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022 - 14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:07:24 PM

I am currently a Gmail user.
I am against allowing certain political email senders to avoid/bypass the spam box.
I am not in favor of allowing certain unwanted emails into my inbox.
It doesn't make sense, it's illogical, and it's prejudiced.

There is no benefit to the end-user. Zero benefit to the Gmail customer, like me.

Thank you for your consideration and not allowing this change to happen.

Regards,
John Hannafin



From: [Elizabeth Danziger](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Ao 2022. No on Google request
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:35:46 PM

Please reject Google's plan to despamify political email.

How can this possibly be in the public interest?

Elizabeth Danziger

From: [Jay Yang](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:50:16 PM

Political email and communication should not be treated any differently than other marketing materials. It should not be whitelisted by default.

From: [Chris Carmack](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:23:54 PM

Not only no, but ***ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR FREAKING MIND NO!***

What group of idiots thought more political spam is a good idea? I don't care what side you're on, I should have to opt in to your emails.

Looking forward to reading that this proposal was shot down...

Tell the people complaining about being sent to SPAM folders to think of this proposal as a child in a Texas school. They can offer your thoughts and prayers after it is shot down and killed.

From: [Deb Elek](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:16:08 PM

An unequivocal "NO" to allowing political emails to bypass spam filters to land in a person's inbox. If this happens, I will be off gmail in a split second. I get enough unsolicited email as it is. Enough already!

Deb Elek

From: [Betsy Czinger](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:00:09 PM

Please deny Google's request to have spam delivered as regular email.
AO 2022-14
thank you Betsy Czinger

From: [Carol Frankenstein](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:21:00 PM

I object to Google's plan to prioritize political emails.

Carol Frankenstein
[Healthy Business Manager LLC](#)
[LinkedIn](#)

From: [Mark Robson](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:44:42 PM

Dear FEC

I request that you reject Google's request to exempt political emails from SPAM filtration. I already get way too many of these emails that do NOT get filtered and the idea of having all those currently in my spam folder actually land in my regular inbox is terrifying.

Thank you for your consideration of this public comment.

From: [Lorraine Reichert](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:39:15 PM

Hello! No political spam in my in box. This would be terrible. Please - DO NOT approve the this request from Google. Reject it.

Thank you -
Lorraine Reichert



If you'd like to register your opinion, you can do so by sending an email to ao@fec.gov, and including the reference number of Google's request: "AO 2022-14."

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

From: [Alessandro Ferrari](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:32:27 PM

Please firmly and unequivocally reject AO 2022-14

What a terrible idea.

best

--

Alessandro Ferrari

From: [Francisco Estrada](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:15:34 PM

Please do not allow--
V/R
Francisco Estrada

From: [Ryan Daiger](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:09:57 PM

Just say NO to more spam.....please!

Ryan Daiger
Frederick, MD

From: [Catherine Zadeh](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:52:05 PM

I vehemently disagree with Google's plan to allow political fundraising emails to bypass spam's filters.

--

Catherine M. Zadeh
ZADEH | Founder & Designer

[Vanity Fair: A Day in the Life](#)

From: [David Punchard](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:43:37 PM

Dear Sirs

The proposed changes suggested by Google or a terrible idea

Please firmly and quickly reject

David Punchard



Ft Lauderdale
Florida 33316

From: [May Pyontek, Alaina](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:42:38 PM

PLEASE please do NOT make this change. Only political ads or newsletters that I sign up for should be treated as non-spam.

--

Alaina May Pyontek
Manager/Broker Associate

[Click for more info on a real estate career at Turpin Realtors--Life Here Is Grand](#)

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

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From: [Richard Winter](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:32:32 PM

In reference to above. ABSOLUTELY NOT. Last thing I want or need is more spam from Republican or Democratic, or any other political party coming to my in-box.

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Coralie Crim](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:24:05 PM

terrible idea, do not grant this request

From: [Michael Lehman](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:22:50 PM

Please firmly and unequivocally reject.... This is a terrible idea.

- Mike

Michael J. Lehman - Chief Information Officer



From: [Dallas Millican](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:28:46 PM

Please DO NOT allow AO 2022-14 to go through.

We already receive too many emails that should be considered spam that drop into our google inboxes. If I want to correspond with my representatives, then I will personally email them. I don't need any political representatives or committee's contacting me through this corrupt policy.

From: [Rick Sloane](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:53:51 PM

In regards to AO 2022-14, please do NOT allow this request to be approved. I do not need misleading information or out right lies emailed to me.

Rick Sloane

From: [Daren Junker](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:43:11 PM

Political emails are already the most egregious violator of mass email norms! Don't give them carte blanche or once they get an email address on their list it will become unusable. I found when I gave my email to one political campaign, they quickly shared it with all the other fundraising campaigns in that party and instead of bring able to unsubscribe from all, they only take you off each one individually AND still add you to new ones later on. Surely they already violate marketing rules already.

Daren Junker
Elkton, SD

From: [Bob Yost](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14.
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:56:02 PM

Regarding Google's desire for a proposal to launch a pilot program under which emails from some FEC-registered political committees would "not be affected by forms of spam detection to which they would otherwise be subject."

Instead, Gmail users would need to mark these messages manually as spam, one by one, otherwise they'd keep coming. Google would also give data about how many emails wind up in people's Gmail inboxes to the candidates and political committees.

My comments are as follows:

- "Regarding the AO 2022-14, absolutely not..."
- "Please firmly and unequivocally reject.... This is a terrible idea."
- "Absolutely no. A thousand times no."
- "Do. Not. Grant. This. Request."
- "Anyone proposing this idea of political SPAM bypassing spam filters should be tied to a TV set with their eyes pried open and forced to watch hundreds of hours of 'my opponent is a scumbag' ads."
- "Allowing [G]oogle to prioritize political emails...would basically mean that Google was providing a large political donation to every politician sending emails to Gmail addresses."

Bob Yost

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Stefanie Dube](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: AO 2022-14
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 8:33:22 AM

Good Morning,

I emphatically and categorically DO NOT want Google to be granted the request for the pilot program to allow for FEC-registered political committees to not be affected by forms of spam detection to which they would otherwise be subject.

HARD PASS.

Stefanie Dube

From: [THOMAS NEMETZ](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Comment re AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:27:19 PM

Dear FEC Commissioners:

I write in regard to the proposal contained in AO 2022-14 to permit political emails to be placed in a correspondence folder instead of a spam folder. As you can see, I do not use gmail for my online correspondence. However, I am concerned that, if a decision to allow this change for gmail subscribers were to take effect, other isp services would soon be similarly affected. I urge you not to decide favorably on this proposal. Thank you.

Thomas G. Nemetz

From: [Roger Loeb](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Comments re AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:55:12 PM

Back in the early days of email many of us paid for "spam" filters that ran on our inbox. Once Google got Gmail well-organized and used their overview of email traffic to identify spam, we discarded those filters. If the proposal by Google to allow selected/approved political email to bypass their filters, that will just create an opportunity for a bunch of us to collaborate on an open-source project to build a new local spam filter program. There already exists a group of us who share the sender email addresses of some of the worst political campaign offenders. It's trivial to use that list to dump all email from those addresses to "trash," rather than to spam. Spam typically has to be deleted by the user; what we're doing bypasses that step and just discards it on arrival. I suspect that political candidates would prefer their annoying pleas for money go to spam, where the recipient might actually see them.

Of greater concern is the "slippery slope" argument. If Google opens this door to calm down the complainers, particularly those who see a conspiracy behind every activity, then what's the next "exception" to their email processing. Many of us already suspect the various government agencies demand that Google filter emails for "trigger words." Any tinkering with their current procedures will just many of us to another free email provider. (Those of us who have been at this for a while don't use the gmail address; we use another domain address and route the email through a forwarder that allows us to change the delivery destination.)

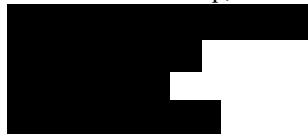
Please, please, keep politics out of email.

[As I like to remind my students: Newton's third law of motion -- for every action there's an equal and opposite reaction -- applies as much to social engineering as it does to physics. However, in social engineering, neither "equal" nor "opposite" can be predicted and often change depending on unrelated events.]

Thank you for the opportunity to add my "two-bits" worth!

--

Roger Loeb
President & CEO
The MarTech Group, Inc.



From: [Roger Loeb](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Comments re AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:56:50 PM

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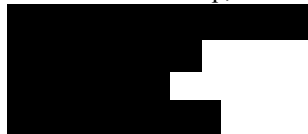
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Thank you for the opportunity to add my "two-bits" worth!

--

Roger Loeb
President & CEO
The MarTech Group, Inc.



From: [Karen Pike](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: gmail
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:56:45 PM

I will stop using gmail... period

Gratefully yours,

Karen Pike

*"So the more you practice and study, the more you begin to view your emotional upheavals like weather changes. They can be captivating and convincing*they can hook you and drag you under*but at the same time, you begin to know they are passing clouds. You've seen the sun and you have no doubt that it's there behind the clouds."*

Pema Chödrön

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From: [Abhishek Bhardwaj](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Google AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:44:24 PM

As a non-US citizen permanently residing in the United States, I am forbidden from participating in the political process. As such political information, especially one that is unsolicited, is a nuisance to millions like me.

In addition I cherish the ability to not want or receive any unsolicited communication of any sort delivered to my inbox. I very much appreciate the ability to filter such things as political messaging (which do not apply to me and I am not going to read anyway) from my email. Please do not allow the filtering of political spam to be disabled or restricted in any manner - no one I have spoken to wants it and it will bring almost no benefit to anyone who hasn't actively solicited this information.

Thank you,

Abhishek Bhardwaj
Arkansas

From: [Liz C](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Google Request AO 2022-14."
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:01:22 PM

I have several gmail accounts and I already get overwhelmed with unsolicited emails. I do not want to have manually flag and unsubscribe to political emails.

I implore that this request get denied. There is little or no benefit to gmail account users to have unsolicited political emails to come into their inboxes, it is spam.

Liz Caldwell

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brad Forrest](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google request AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:12:30 PM

The point is to make sure that Google fixes their algorithms so their employee biases cannot influence what is placed in a spam folder. Allowing all political ads to bypass the filters is a terrible idea, but I do not trust big tech to filter without bias. The solution must move towards freedom and transparency so that individuals can filter out information as they will not as the government or big tech wills. Why must companies with big influence and government conspire to worsen the lives of individual citizens? Google and the FEC should work to make citizen's lives better, with more individual control, not less.

From: [Lynne Stevens](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google/Spam
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:43:54 PM

I am horrified at the thought of not being safe from or being able to get rid of political spam. If Google is allowed to implement this spam bypass, I will delete my Gmail immediately. We're bombarded with the stuff as it is, and I don't even want it from the candidates I support.

It's a terrible idea!!

Lynne Stevens
Juneau, AK

From: [Jonathan Staebell](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google's request for an opinion about their plan to let political email bypass spam filtering
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:28:45 PM

I do not want political spam to be allowed past Google's spam filters. This is a clear case where the commission can choose to do what is best for the American people instead of just the political elites.

Jon

From: [Peter Fraire](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Google's Request: AO 2022-14 - Unsolicited Messages
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:14:18 PM

FEC

NO WAY. I GET TOO MUCH SPAM ALREADY.

PF

From: [Louise Altman](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Google's request: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:37:15 PM

Absolutely NO!

Louise Altman

From: [janet_james](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Google's request: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 5:58:14 PM

Please do not permit Google to allow political emails to not be considered spam. Just imagine how politicians could take unfair advantage of this!

We can sign up for the political emails we desire and not be hounded by unwanted mail!

Thank you,
Janet James

Sent from my iPad

From: [Puzzle Lady](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:50:14 PM

I thoroughly disagree with you applying the let political spam come into our Gmail accounts. Do not implement this awful program. I get enough junk mail without this spam getting through.

Priscilla Sprague



From: [Diane Kelm](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Opposed AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 9:43:07 PM

AO 2022-14 OPPOSED !

Opposed! - [Google Revealed Plans for a Big Change to Gmail](#)

Opposed! - Google wants the FEC to weigh in "on a proposal to launch a pilot program" under which emails from some FEC-registered political committees would "not be affected by forms of spam detection to which they would otherwise be subject."

From: [Cecilia Gorman](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Opposition to Google's proposal in AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:02:21 PM

Allowing biased infiltration of my inbox is not acceptable.
No to Google's request to the FCC.
Cecilia Gorman

From: [Arun Chakrabarty](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Re: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:18:58 PM

I absolutely reject this proposal.

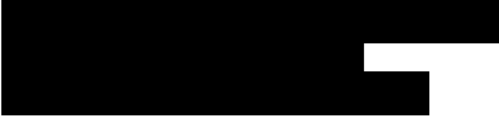
From: [Susan Berberi](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: RE: AO 2022-14.
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:26:16 PM

Please do not grant Google's request to exempt political emails from Spam filters!!! we do not want to get more political emails. NO, NO, NO, NO!!!!!!!

From: [Sandor Slomovits](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: re: AO 2022-14.
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 10:15:56 PM

No, please don't! I do not want to receive countless messages in my inbox. It's bad enough that they fill my mailbox. Thank you
Be Well,

Sandor Slomovits



From: [Yun Xiao Yan-Lee](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: RE: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:22:06 PM

This is to object to Google's plan with political emails.

From: [arunangshu chakrabarty](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Re: AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:19:42 PM

I absolutely reject this proposal.

From: [Dale Mulert](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: re: Google's request: "AO 2022-14."
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:23:24 PM

I do not want these messages in regular mail. I certainly do not want them in my email. I am already tired of politicians feeling like they are a specialized class of people; please don't give them more privileges. They should play by the rules like every other business, no special treatment. If you spam, your message should get treated like spam. I don't understand why I must be subjected to manually filtering out political spam because politicians think they are being unfairly treated.

- We have multiple 24-hour news channels that do nothing but talk about this stuff.
- We have Social Media
- We google to do a search
- We have friends
- We are not living under a rock

Sorry, I am a bit tired of hearing the two political parties whine about how unfairly they are treated. Start doing the work of the people and stop fighting like five-year-olds about a toy. You are tearing apart our country and making us weaker as a nation.

Please reject the acceptance of Google's pilot program to allow political emails to bypass spam filters.

Dale Mulert

From: [Ken Lee](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Regarding Google Request AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 9:57:42 PM

Dear FEC,

Please, please, please do not grant Google's request.

The last thing I need in my already difficult to manage Gmail inbox, is an unrelenting stream of political spam.

If I want to be bombarded with such messages, it's easy for me to provide my address to organizations and let them have at me.

But I don't want that. And I don't want to automatically have tons more emails each day and week that I have to sift through in order to find the email that I actually want to read.

I already regret having made contributions to a very small number of candidates. Their offices have apparently shared my email and phone number via other networks with the result that my gmail account and my phone are flooded each and every day with obnoxious requests for money, attack ads, horse manure political statements, and other material that demonstrates why politicians are viewed so poorly.

We are relentlessly bombarded every day by spam, robocalls, advertising, messages from "safe" sources, . . . it's a firehose of slop. And when you calculate how much time - in total - all of us are spending deleting all this slop, the total loss of time to the American public and economy must be staggering.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Lee

From: [Joe W](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: Say No to AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 8:28:32 PM

This is a terrible plan. I vehemently oppose allowing political emails to bypass spam filters.
Joseph Wild
Channahon IL

From: [robert hicks](#)
To: [AO](#)
Subject: Stop Google political spam campaign # AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:32:07 PM

AO 2022-14

NO, NO, NO.

DON'T VOTE TO APPROVE THIS.

From: [Barbara Spector](#)
To: [AQ](#)
Subject: with regard to AO 2022-14
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 7:51:59 PM

I strongly object to gmail allowing political message to land in my inbox rather than my SPAM folder. I get enough political requests for money as it is!

Feel free to [Schedule a time](#) for us to talk about your needs, challenges, or goals

Best Wishes,
Barbara Spector

