

STEVE DAINES
MONTANA

320 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2651

United States Senate

COMMITTEES
BANKING
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
FINANCE
INDIAN AFFAIRS

October 12, 2021

Mr. Sundar Pichai
CEO, Google
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway
Mountain View, CA 94043

Dear Mr. Pichai:

I write to express my deep concerns with the recent action taken by Google regarding the removal of American Principles Project's YouTube channel. The dangerous precedent your platform, and other social media companies are setting, is not one that is easy to walk back from. As I write this, there has not been any justification as to what Community Guideline the American Principles Project violated to warrant removal of their content.

As you know, on October 11, 2021, Google emailed the American Principles Project to inform them that their YouTube channel had been removed. No justification was provided, no warning was given, and instead eight years of content was pulled down. As of October 12, 2021, the YouTube channel in question has been temporarily restored, yet several videos remain unrecovered. It is incredibly concerning that on this platform that should be an open community for ideas, time and time again Google has continually removed only specific viewpoints.

This is the second letter that I have written regarding Google's practices of removing conservative or pro-life content and have yet to receive sufficient answers to how the affected content violates your Community Guidelines. It is of paramount importance that Google addresses the concerns of so many in regard to the removal of content that does not violate any terms and conditions, but appears to be discrimination against viewpoints different than its own. I am asking that Google reinstate American Principles Project's YouTube channel in full, explain the reasoning behind the suspension, and implement policies to ensure similar actions do not occur in the future.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator