

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 6, 1975

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have your letter of April 28 inviting me to appear and testify before the Senate Subcommittee on Antitrust and Monopoly concerning the Antitrust Improvements Act of 1975 (S. 1284) and related Administration proposals.

The practice which has been established and given recognition by the Congress is that, absent the most compelling circumstances, members of the President's immediate staff do not appear before a Congressional committee with respect to responsibilities assigned by that President.

Although I must respectfully decline the invitation to appear and testify, I would like to note with favor the inclusion of the civil investigative demand provisions of Title II in S. 1284. As you know, this concept has been endorsed publicly by the President on a number of occasions.

Sincerely,



L. William Seidman
Assistant to the President
for Economic Affairs

Honorable Philip A. Hart
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Antitrust and Monopoly
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.