

CFPB Under Chopra: What to Expect

President Joe Biden nominated FTC Commissioner Rohit Chopra to be the next Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Since 2018 as a minority member, he has aggressively argued for regulation of big tech and effective enforcement.



What will he bring to the Bureau?

Chopra has a long history advocating for increased supervision and enforcement action and is closely aligned with Senator Elizabeth Warren, having helped her establish the Bureau. He also served as the agency's first Student Loan Ombudsman and is a vocal critic of the mounting levels of student loan debt in the U.S.

Based on Chopra's remarks at confirmation hearings, the Bureau under his leadership will likely *initially* focus on:

- Credit Reporting & Credit Bureaus
- Student Loan Servicers & Mortgage Servicers
- Enforcement-Heavy Activity
- COVID-19 Oversight

Policy priorities under Chopra will likely include:

- Overdraft
- Small Dollar Lending
- Small Business Data Collection (Section 1071)
- Consumer Access to Financial Records (Section 1033)

CBA believes the CFPB under Chopra's leadership will focus efforts toward more frequent and significant civil penalties against large financial institutions to publicly reveal their "effectiveness." We also expect increased oversight in supervision and enforcement as well as internal priorities including reversal of Trump-led organizational changes and staffing additional enforcement attorneys.

CBA Engagement

CBA [sent a letter](#) to Commissioner Chopra outlining four core principles necessary for the Bureau to achieve the shared goal of protecting consumers equally across institutions, clear and transparent rules of the road and putting an end to the political pendulum swing. Those principles include:

- Ensuring Bureau actions preserve consumer access to credit;
- Developing long-term, consistent consumer financial protection laws;
- Implementing a clear, transparent rulemaking process with input from all participants; and
- Creating a level playing field across all financial services institutions.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read CBA President & CEO Richard Hunt's op-ed in *American Banker* discussing those principles and underscoring the need for consistent regulations and a less political CFPB.