

Customs and Border Patrol,

I am writing to express my opposition to the CBP proposal to ask Chinese visitors entering the U.S. on tourist and business visas to provide access to their social media accounts. While the CBP claims that providing access to social media accounts is optional, visitors will no doubt feel compelled to comply when asked by a uniformed official who is the literal gatekeeper to their onward passage. CBP also claims that the data will not be used to prevent travel based on an applicant's race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation, but this extensive scrutiny of Chinese visitors would allow for discriminatory targeting at border checkpoints. There is no evidence that targeting Chinese visitors in such a manner would advance our country's national security.

This policy would reinforce the idea of China as an enemy to the US, which would lead to increased anti-Chinese sentiment in the United States, which is already on the rise.

I urge you to reconsider and not implement this proposal.