

From: William Wall [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 June 2022 23:50
To: BrowsersAndCloud
Subject: Apple Browser Ban

To whom it may concern,

I am a Senior Software Engineer for Teal Labs, Inc. based out of Denver, Colorado, USA. I have nearly 20 years of experience in the field, and I can say with certainty that Apple's ban on competing browser engines serves only to protect their bottom line, and does nothing for the security of their users or the health of the market.

From a usability perspective, having access to other browser engines opens up a world of possibilities. Both Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome have a huge catalog of browser extensions which can be used to bolster privacy on the web, increase accessibility, and customize the web experience. Personally, I run at least 5 extensions with Firefox on Android, which is simply not possible to do on iOS because the engine is not Mozilla's Gecko. Not only that, but browser engines often compete in the desktop space on other usability items such as performance, battery life, and other features. This competition is non-existent on iOS.

I believe that the security problems and update frequency for Safari/Webkit have been thoroughly documented by other groups such as Open Web Advocacy. However, on a similar note, Safari has often been much slower to implement new web standards than their counterparts. In some cases, Apple have even released half-baked implementations of those standards which developers then had to dig through and work-around in order to make web sites and applications work as expected.

While I am not a U.K. citizen, I would like to see the following changes:

- Remove the ban on competing browser engines
- Require that competing browser have equal access to hardware APIs
- Require that Apple support Progressive Web Applications (if not directly through Safari, then at least allow other browsers to implement it)

We, developers and users alike, appreciate you all taking the time to look into this issue and look forward to a brighter future for the Web.

Sincerely,
William A. Wall, IV