



My name is Laurie Hieb, and I am the executive director of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association. Our association represents 71 newspapers across the state, 28 of which are independently owned.

Our membership includes a diverse range of print and online publications—from large outlets like *The Oregonian* to rural newspapers such as *The New Era in Sweet Home*, *Smoke Signals*, serving the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, *the Hells Canyon Journal* in Halfway and the *Nugget in Sisters*.

ONPA and the broader coalition stand in strong support of SB 686. This bill ensures that newspapers are fairly compensated for the journalism they produce—journalism that fuels Google’s monopoly adjudicated platform without proper reimbursement.

Opponents may argue that this bill primarily benefits large, out-of-state corporations, but that is simply not the case. SB 686 establishes a fair payout structure based on the number of journalists employed in Oregon, ensuring that news organizations receive their rightful share.

Supporting this bill means supporting Oregon journalists and the critical role they play in informing our communities.

I urge you to vote yes on SB 686 to help sustain local journalism and uphold a free and vibrant press in Oregon.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie Hieb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a stylized "H".

Laurie Hieb