

Submitter:

Robert Clark

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB686

Local journalism also relies on the digital platforms for news and their writing of local news articles. It is a two-way street, and so taxing the likes of Google, Meta, Bing etc ignores that local journalism also should pay for its use of these free on-line search platforms. Furthermore, government should not be in the role of underwriting journalism, as the core foundation of journalism is the separation of a critical press and government. By the government paying local journalism it will most probably end up pressuring local journalism to print stories most favorable to the current government powers/leaders and their policies, rather providing an accurate and balanced critique for the public at large.