

Submitter: D Torres  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3564  
Chair & Committee Members,

I support HB 3564.

This legislation serves the dual purpose of strengthening accountability in the media and ensuring fairness for individuals or entities that may be harmed by inaccurate or misleading content.

This Act modernizes an important legal process. The current law governing correction and retraction demands is often outdated and procedurally unclear. By refining how individuals can formally request a correction, this bill promotes consistency and transparency in addressing potential defamation. It provides a clearer path for those affected to seek resolution outside of costly litigation—encouraging timely, good-faith corrections rather than courtroom conflict.

This bill will help balance free speech and reputational rights. In an era where information travels rapidly and reputational damage can be swift and lasting, this bill does not hinder freedom of the press or expression. Instead, it reinforces the idea that with the power to publish comes a responsibility to correct errors when they occur. This is not about censoring speech—it's about encouraging integrity and accountability in public discourse.

This Act promotes efficient dispute resolution. By streamlining the process for retraction or correction requests, the bill could reduce the number of defamation cases that enter the court system. Offering a clearer and fairer route to resolve disputes over potentially harmful content benefits everyone—from individuals trying to protect their reputations to publishers who may wish to avoid legal battles through prompt and voluntary corrections.

This legislation enhances public trust. When media outlets respond promptly and responsibly to correction requests, it fosters confidence in the information landscape. Readers are more likely to trust outlets that own their mistakes and correct them in a consistent and transparent way.

For all of these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of HB 3564. This bill updates an important legal tool, protects reputational rights, and promotes responsible publishing—all while preserving freedom of expression. It makes complete and total sense.