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To: Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government
From: Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)

Re: COIN Support of SB1580

Date: February 7, 2026

Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazen, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government:

The Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) strongly urges you to pass SB1580, The Oregon Journalism Act, to invest in the future of Oregon journalism.

Journalism in Oregon is being victimized by a change in how we receive our news. Increasingly, we get our news from mega digital platforms like Meta and Google. They poach their stories from journalists and newsrooms throughout Oregon without compensating them. The result is a decline in local reporting, skinny newspapers and fewer broadcasts as the advertising dollars follow the stories to the platforms.

The Oregon Journalism Protection Act (SB1580) aims to rebalance the market by reinvesting in local journalism with two provisions for the platforms to fairly compensate and retain our creative journalists. The first option is a flat statuary payment determined by the platform size (90% of the revenue to be distributed among Oregon journalism contributors based on the newsroom headcount). The second alternative is an arbitration process to determine a fair market value of Oregon news on a yearly basis (at least 70% of the revenue to be paid directly to news staff based on headcount). Both provisions would contribute 10% of the platform payments to the Oregon Civic Information Consortium for grants to micro-publications and news desert communities.

I write today on behalf of COIN which is a coalition of over 75 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote progressive causes for the benefit of all Oregonians. The passage of The Oregon Journalism Protection (SB1580) *will* benefit all Oregonians in both urban and rural communities.

Vote YES on SB1580, The Oregon Journalism Protection Act, for our future.

Respectfully,

Jacqueline Brown (Milwaukie)
On behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)