

Bill Number and Title:
SB 1580 The Oregon Journalism Protection Act

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government:

As a long time Oregonian, born in Astoria, and growing up in rural communities in southern Oregon and Veneta, and later living and working in Tillamook, Oregon, I have always valued the news from local journalists who are on the ground here. I hold the same beliefs in Portland now, and have subscribed to my local news papers for many years. I trust these sources.

For that reason, I recommend that we endorse this bill as we did SB 686 in the 2025 session. As we see the decline in our local news sources, we need to find funding that will support those who mine Oregon stories that are subsequently published by the tech companies on the internet.

The Oregon Journalism Protection Act is crafted to provide fair compensation to Oregon news content providers from the Big Tech companies such as Mehta and Google who poach local articles for their platforms. Offering 2 payment options, this Act aims to rebalance the market and reinvest in our local journalism that is in decline. Similar acts are producing revenue for local news providers in Canada, Australia, New Jersey, and California.

Please endorse SB 1580 to protect our journalists and the important work they do for us in Oregon.

Sincerely,
Donna Acord