

Submitter: Anthony Estrada
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1580

Healthy, robust, and independent journalism is essential to a functioning democracy.

Unfortunately, we live in a media environment where digital platforms like Google profit from news content without fairly compensating the newsrooms and journalists who create it. Other jurisdictions have successfully developed anti-trust legislation to address this problem. Smaller platforms like Apple News and Perplexity have already made fair deals with news content providers – showing that a shared revenue model is profitable, even for smaller platforms. Mega platforms should do the same and do right by Oregon’s journalists, news organizations, and the communities that rely on them.

Over the past 18 years, 27% of the state's newspapers have closed, leaving many communities with limited or no access to reliable local news. Closures and layoffs in newsrooms harm Oregonians, cost jobs in journalism, and harm our civic life. SB 1580 requires large platforms to make agreements with Oregon news publishers for accessing content that supports their platform’s traffic, audience, and profits. Inspired by successful models in Canada, Australia, New Jersey, and California, and journalism rebound efforts underway at the federal level as well as in 16 states and cities like New York and Chicago. This bill rebalances the market and reinvests in Oregon’s local journalism.

Vote Yes on SB 1580.