

November 28, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

50 State Broadcaster Associations, Including the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, In Support of the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act

Dear Leaders Schumer and McConnell:

On behalf of the undersigned broadcaster associations representing local, over-the-air broadcast stations in all 50 states, including the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, we write today to ask that you bring S. 673, the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act (JCPA), to the Senate floor for consideration before the close of the 117th Congress. This bipartisan piece of legislation, introduced by Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and John Kennedy (R-LA), would allow broadcasters and other news publishers to jointly negotiate with the dominant online platforms regarding the terms and conditions by which their content may be accessed online.

Broadcasters provide an invaluable resource to local communities around the country, serving as a trusted source for news and information. However, the major tech behemoths are threatening the survival of local broadcasters and other news publishers throughout American communities. These behemoths have grown to massive sizes, and have gained enormous market power. They have upended the advertising marketplace and, in many cases, have devised anticompetitive practices to protect it. Broadcasters and other news publishers are now competing with these massive platforms for advertising revenue, and these platforms often act as gatekeepers of online content – exerting power over what internet users access and how advertisers reach them.

The JCPA is an urgently needed first step toward countering Big Tech’s market dominance. This critical legislation would help level the playing field so that broadcasters and other local news publishers can jointly negotiate with dominant online platforms and be fairly compensated.

S. 673 has already undergone an extensive and rigorous process in the Senate Judiciary Committee, resulting in a strong bipartisan vote of 15 to 7 in favor of moving the legislation to the Senate floor. Republican and Democratic Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee made important changes to the bill to secure this bipartisan vote, and the legislation also enjoys the cosponsorship of a number of senior Republicans and Democrats who do not sit on the Committee.

We understand that there is precious little legislative time left on the Senate calendar before the end of the 117th Congress, and that there are a number of competing legislative priorities. However, the JCPA is urgently needed by local broadcasters and other news publishers so that they can continue to serve local communities around the country. Therefore, whether on its own or with a package of other legislation addressing other aspects of Big Tech market dominance, we urge you to bring this bipartisan bill before the full Senate before the end of the year.

Respectfully,

Sharon M. Tinsley



Alabama Broadcasters Association
Sharon Tinsley

Cathy Hiebert



Alaska Broadcasters Association
Cathy Hiebert

Christopher W. Kline



Arizona Broadcasters Association
Christopher Kline

Q. Luke Story



Arkansas Broadcasters Association
Luke Story

Joe Berry



California Broadcasters Association
Joe Berry

Justin Sasso



Colorado Broadcasters Association
Justin Sasso

Michael Patrick Ryan



Connecticut Broadcasters Association
Michael Patrick Ryan

C. Patrick Roberts



Florida Association of Broadcasters
C. Patrick Roberts

Bob Houghton



Georgia Association of Broadcasters
Bob Houghton

Jamie Hartnett



Hawaii Association of Broadcasters

Jamie Hartnett

Lisa L Owens



Idaho State Broadcasters Association

Lisa Owens

Dennis Lyle



Illinois Broadcasters Association

Dennis Lyle

Dave Arland



Indiana Broadcasters Association

Dave Arland

Lisa Reynolds



Iowa Broadcasters Association

Lisa Reynolds

Allison Mazzei



Kansas Association of Broadcasters

Allison Mazzei

Chris Winkle



Kentucky Broadcasters Association

Chris Winkle

Polly Prince Johnson



Louisiana Association of Broadcasters

Polly Prince Johnson

Tim Moore



Maine Association of Broadcasters

Tim Moore

Lisa Reynolds



**Maryland/D.C./Delaware
(MDCD) Broadcasters
Association**
Lisa Reynolds

Jordan Walton



**Massachusetts
Broadcasters Association**
Jordan Walton



**Michigan Association of
Broadcasters**
Sam Klemet

Wendy S. Paulson



**Minnesota Broadcasters
Association**
Wendy Paulson

Amanda S. Fontaine



**Mississippi Association of
Broadcasters**
Amanda Fontaine

Mark Gordon



**Missouri Broadcasters
Association**
Mark Gordon

Dewey Bruce



**Montana Broadcasters
Association**
Dewey Bruce

Jim Timm



**Nebraska Broadcasters
Association**
Jim Timm

Mitch Fox



**Nevada Broadcasters
Association**
Mitch Fox

Tracy Caruso



New Hampshire Association of Broadcasters
Tracy Caruso

John Mozes



New Jersey Broadcasters Association
John Mozes

Paula Maes



New Mexico Broadcasters Association
Paula Maes

David Donovan



New York State Broadcasters Association
David Donovan

Lisa Reynolds



North Carolina Association of Broadcasters
Lisa Reynolds

Beth Helfrich



North Dakota Broadcasters Association
Beth Helfrich

Christine Merritt



Ohio Association of Broadcasters
Christine Merritt

Vance Harrison



Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters
Vance Harrison

Bob Singer



Oregon Association of Broadcasters
Bob Singer

Joe Conti



Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters
Joe Conti

Felix A Bonnet



Radio Broadcasters Association of Puerto Rico
Felix Bonnet

Lori Needham



Rhode Island Broadcasters Association
Lori Needham

Margaret Wallace



South Carolina Broadcasters Association
Margaret Wallace

Steve Willard



South Dakota Broadcasters Association
Steve Willard

Chris Baker



Tennessee Association of Broadcasters
Chris Baker

Oscar Rodriguez



Texas Association of Broadcasters
Oscar Rodriguez

Michele Zabriskie



Utah Broadcasters Association
Michele Zabriskie

Wendy Mays



Vermont Association of Broadcasters
Wendy Mays

Doug F. Easter



Virginia Association of Broadcasters
Doug Easter

Keith



Washington State Association of Broadcasters
Keith Shipman

Michele C. Crist



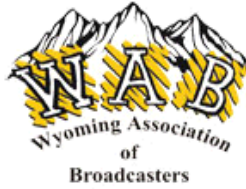
West Virginia Broadcasters Association
Michele Crist

Michelle Vetterkind



Wisconsin Broadcasters Association
Michelle Vetterkind

Laura Grott



Wyoming Association of Broadcasters
Laura Grott