

May 7, 2021

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust and Consumer Rights  
United States Senate  
425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Kennedy  
United States Senate  
416 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Cicilline  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law  
United States House of Representatives  
2233 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Buck  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law  
United States House of Representatives  
2455 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Klobuchar, Sen. Kennedy, Chairman Cicilline, and Ranking Member Buck:

On behalf of our media organizations, we request your support for H.R. 1735 / S.673, the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act (JCPA). This bipartisan bill is critically important to protecting the future of high-quality journalism, including news and opinion, across the country.

In their wisdom, the Founding Fathers enshrined protections for a press free from government regulation in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. But the Founders could not have envisioned a future in which nearly all news and information would be controlled by two private entities. Today, Google and Facebook use their dominance over the digital marketplace to set the rules for news publishers and determine how journalism is displayed, prioritized, and monetized.

The JCPA would benefit all publications—large and small, national and regional—that create original news content online. Its benefit to news publishers and broadcasters with an editorial voice is critical, as we are all potential victims of viewpoint discrimination by the big tech companies.

Existing laws make it difficult for news organizations to obtain fair compensation from tech platforms for the use of their content. The JCPA would address this problem by allowing publishers and broadcasters to work together for a temporary period in order to negotiate for the compensation we deserve.

Australians and Europeans have recognized the challenge the tech giants pose to a free press, too, and are moving towards new compensation models for publishers. These models seek to ensure that equitable terms are offered to all publishers and that tech platforms negotiate in good faith. The JCPA deregulates our industry to enable a new compensation model in the U.S. too.

It is more important than ever to protect quality journalism that is independent both from government and from powerful Silicon Valley companies. We urge you to support the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act.

Sincerely,

Christopher Dolan  
President and Executive Editor  
*The Washington Times*

Wyatt Emmerich  
President, Emmerich Newspapers  
*Clarksdale Press Register*  
*Charleston Sun-Sentinel*  
*Greenwood Commonwealth*  
*Indianola Enterprise-Tocsin*  
*Delta Democrat Times*  
*Yazoo Herald*  
*Northside Sun*  
*Rankin Record*  
*Magee Courier*  
*Simpson County News*  
*McComb Enterprise-Journal*  
*Columbian Progress*  
*The Hattiesburg Post*  
*The Lamar Times*  
*The Petal News*  
*The Chronicle*  
*Clarke County Tribune*  
*Newton County Appeal*  
*Scott County Times*  
*The Star-Herald*  
*Winston County Journal*  
*Choctaw Plain Dealer*  
*Webster Progress-Times*

*Winona Times*  
*The Conservative*  
*Madison Journal*  
*Franklinton Era-Leader*  
*Dumas Clarion*

Charles Hill Morris, Jr.  
Morris Multimedia  
*Bryan County News*  
*Coastal Courier*  
*Effingham Herald*  
*Frontline*  
*Statesboro Herald*  
*Connect Savannah*  
*Bulloch County Pennysaver*  
*Effingham Living*  
*Statesboro Magazine*  
*Statesboro MOMents*  
*The Journal Sentinel*  
*Clayton County Times Register*  
*Ellsworth County Independent Reporter*  
*Great Bend Tribune*  
*Marquette Tribune*  
*Blythewood Country Chronicle*  
*Camden Horse & Equestrian*  
*Chronicle Independent*  
*Fort Jackson Leader*  
*Lee County Observer*  
*The Shaw News*  
*Winnsboro/Fairfield County Country Chronicle*  
*Smithville Review*  
*Southern Standard*  
*The Boscobel Dial*  
*Courier Press*  
*Crawford County Independent and Kickapoo Scout*  
*Fennimore Times*  
*Grant County Herald Independent*  
*The Monroe Times*  
*Muscoda Progressive*  
*The Platteville Journal*  
*Reminder*  
*Republican Journal*  
*Round Up*  
*The Richland Observer*  
*The Trader*  
*Tri County Press*

Neil Patel  
Co-Founder and Publisher  
*The Daily Caller*

Chris Reen  
President and CEO  
Clarity Media Group, Inc.  
*The Washington Examiner*  
*The Denver Gazette*  
*The Colorado Springs Gazette*

Christopher Ruddy  
CEO  
Newsmax Media, Inc.

David Santrella  
President Broadcast Media  
Salem Media Group

Jonathan Garthwaite  
Vice President  
Townhall Media

cc: Chairman Richard Durbin, Ranking Member Charles Grassley, Chairman Jerrold Nadler,  
Ranking Member James Jordan