

February 7, 2022

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 Mike Lee
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Competition Policy, Antitrust, and
Consumer Rights United States Senate
361A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Klobuchar and Ranking Member Lee:

News Media Canada, which represents hundreds of news publishers in Canada, has been closely watching H.R. 1735 / S.673, the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act (JCPA).

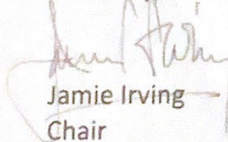
A fiercely independent and commercially viable press is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy. Today, too much control of access to online news is concentrated in the hands of a few dominant tech platforms. As a result, the digital playing field is uneven and favors the powerful platforms and services over publishers and the journalists they employ.

In our view, the JCPA would help address these problems by allowing publishers to come together to negotiate collectively with the platforms, backed up with the teeth of an enforcement mechanism. This will lead to equitable compensation for news publishers large and small throughout the United States.

A similar approach is working in Australia, where publishers are being compensated fairly for the content their journalists produce. The time to act in North America is now. Publishers throughout the Americas are turning to the U.S. and Canada for leadership. In Canada, we are about to move forward with similar legislation. We urge American lawmakers to take this critical step alongside us. It is more important than ever to protect quality, trusted journalism and ensure that the people who create content are compensated fairly for their work.

Real journalism, created by real journalists, costs real money. The price of inaction will be massive news deserts across North America. We urge you to stand up for local journalism. We urge you to support the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act.

Sincerely,


Jamie Irving
Chair



Paul Deegan
President and Chief Executive Officer

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