

Submitter: Torsten Kjelsstrand  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB686

I write in support of SB 686 in hopes that Oregon will be a place where local news can once again flourish -- and help all of our communities get the locally gathered and served news they need to flourish, as well. Locally generated and distributed news is the backbone of our democracy, the only way we have created to make sure that accurate and timely information flows to people in our communities, so that they can make decisions about their own governance. For too long, the big aggregators of news have profited from the hard work of local journalism outlets while simultaneously creating a financial system that makes local news less and less economically viable. We need to reverse this trend towards profits at the large and distant level at the cost of locally-focused new outlets. Oregon has the opportunity to once again be a model of democracy that starts at the local level. Please support this bill.