



May 22, 2024

The Honorable Kimberly Lightford, Chair
IL Senate Assignments Committee
309 H Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Chair Lightford,

On behalf of Chamber of Progress, a tech industry association supporting public policies to build a more inclusive country in which all people benefit from technological leaps, **we urge you to support SB 3953.**

SB 3953 supports information access in local communities

Local journalism plays an essential role in information access in local communities. Reporting local news, events, and developments creates a vital channel for people to access accurate and timely information. This allows people to make informed decisions and participate in civic life. We applaud the authors for including language that will ensure the bill benefits independent Illinois voices, and not the out-of-state hedge funds that have bought up news outlets across the country.

SB 3953 supports diversity and preserves accountability in local news

Local journalists play a crucial role in supporting diverse viewpoints and preserving accountability. This bill supports local journalism by directing tax credits to local news outlets.

We applaud this bill's commitment to helping local journalism and journalists. For this reason, **we urge you to support SB 3953.**

Sincerely,

Kouri Marshall

Director of State and Local Public Policy, Central US
Chamber of Progress