



May 22, 2024

The Honorable Cristina Castro
Senator 22nd District
121 C Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Chair Castro and Committee members:

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 – I write to you today to express our **opposition and concerns regarding SB 3591**, the Journalism Preservation Act.

SB 3591 is similar to a bill in California, which was opposed by a wide range of small news publishers, public interest groups, and industry groups.

As you may already know, SB 3591 in Illinois is nearly identical to AB 886, from last year in California, otherwise known as the California Journalism Preservation Act.

California lawmakers heard from many [small, local publishers, public interest groups, and industry groups](#), Like Free Press Action, Local Independent Online News (LION) Publishers, and the ACLU California Action, who were vehemently opposed to the bill because it [would favor larger publishers, reduce the reach of news organizations, and result in poorer quality content and misinformation](#).

After first being [postponed a full year](#) due to being so controversial, [California lawmakers eventually stopped that piece of legislation](#) from further consideration altogether and stated that "getting this policy right is more important than getting it quick."


Illinois lawmakers can learn from the negative impacts of the “link tax” in Canada.

I also urge you to look into another similar piece of legislation, [Canada’s Online News Act](#), that was enacted. I encourage you to take note of [what Canadian leaders, ranging from](#)

[elected officials to academics to public interest and industry groups, are saying about the negative impacts](#). Among others, these include a massive distort in the market to just the largest news providers as well as traffic being driven away from smaller publishers.

For these reasons, we strongly encourage you to **oppose SB 3591**.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. C. M.", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval shape.

Kouri Marshall

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