

July 22, 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 David Cicilline Chairman, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law U.S. House of Representatives 2233 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 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

The Honorable Ken Buck Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law U.S. House of Representatives 2455 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Klobuchar, Chairman Cicilline, Ranking Member Lee, and Ranking Member Buck,

The Peruvian Press Council has closely watched H.R. 1735 / S.673, the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act (JCPA).

A free and diverse press is the backbone of a healthy and vibrant democracy. Yet the control of access to trustworthy news online has become concentrated in the hands of two dominant tech platforms, Facebook and Google. These companies leverage their dominance over the digital marketplace to set the rules for news publishers and determine how journalism is displayed, prioritized, and monetized. As a result, while small and local publishers languish under unfair terms set by Big Tech, the platforms line their pockets with record revenues derived partly from shortchanging news publishers while cutting side deals for themselves.

The JCPA would help address these problems by allowing publishers to come together to negotiate with the platforms for the compensation they deserve, and an enforcement mechanism will ensure an equitable settlement for all news publishers, big and small, in the United States.

We have seen a similar approach work in Australia, where publishers are fairly compensated for the content their journalists produce. We are watching the same unfold in Europe and some Americas countries. The moment to act in the United States is now. It is more important than ever to protect quality journalism and ensure that the people who create journalistic content are compensated fairly for their often-painstaking work, which could bring communities together.

Journalism is critical to a functioning democracy, and the price of inaction – the disappearance of local news in the U.S. – is too great. Therefore, we urge you to support news publishers across the United States and support the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act. This legislation will serve as a precedent for other countries in the Americas, where efforts are also being made to adopt public policies to support the media.

Sincerely,

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María Eugenia Mohme President Consejo de la Prensa Peruana, CPP