



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 7718



Offered by:

SEN. FLEXER, 29th Dist.
REP. BLUMENTHAL, 147th Dist.
REP. FARRAR, 20th Dist.
REP. MORRIN BELLO, 28th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1230

File No. 129

Cal. No. 118

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF PRINT AND DIGITAL
ADVERTISING BY THE STATE."**

1 Strike lines 1 to 24, inclusive, in their entirety and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Local news organization" means an entity that:

5 (A) Engages professionals to create, edit, produce and distribute
6 original content concerning matters of public interest through reporting
7 activities, including conducting interviews, observing current events
8 and analyzing documents or other information;

9 (B) (i) If a print publication, has published at least one print
10 publication per month over the prior twelve months and either holds
11 valid United States Postal Service periodical mailing privileges or has at

- 12 least twenty-five per cent of its content dedicated to local news;
- 13 (ii) If providing digital content, has published at least one story about
14 the community of this state per week over the prior twelve months; and
- 15 (iii) If both a print publication and provider of digital content, meets
16 the requirements of either clause (i) or (ii) of this subparagraph;
- 17 (C) Has disclosed in its print publication or on its Internet web site its
18 beneficial ownership or, in the case of a nonprofit entity, its board of
19 directors;
- 20 (D) If exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the
21 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
22 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
23 time, has declared the coverage of local or state news as its stated
24 mission in its filings with the Internal Revenue Service; and
- 25 (E) Has received not more than fifty per cent of its gross receipts for
26 the previous year from (i) political committees or any other entities
27 described in Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any
28 subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States,
29 as amended from time to time, or (ii) an organization that is exempt
30 from taxation under Section 501(c)(4) or 501(c)(6) of the Internal
31 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
32 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time; and
- 33 (2) "State agency" means any department, board, council, commission
34 or other executive branch agency of state government, but excludes each
35 constituent unit of the state system of higher education, as described in
36 section 10a-1 of the general statutes.
- 37 (b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (e) of this section, on
38 and after July 1, 2026, each state agency procuring print or digital
39 advertising shall, within available appropriations, contract with a
40 commercial or nonprofit local news organization whose principal place
41 of business is in this state for not less than fifteen per cent of the total

42 annual value of such agency's contracts for such advertising. In the case
43 of a commercial or nonprofit local news organization that is owned by
44 a parent company that is located outside of this state, the principal place
45 of business of such organization shall be deemed to be the location of
46 such parent company. Not later than June 1, 2026, the Commissioner of
47 Administrative Services shall, within available appropriations, establish
48 guidelines for any contracts entered into under this section. The
49 commissioner may accept volunteer assistance from institutions of
50 higher education in the state or other neutral third parties with relevant
51 expertise in establishing such guidelines."