

# America's Newspapers

NEWSPAPERS.ORG



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## America's Newspapers thanks Congressional leaders for their support of local journalism



**By a vote of 220-213, the House approved the Build Back Better Act this morning, which includes a five-year credit for local newspapers to employ and adequately compensate journalists.**

In its current form, this would provide up to \$25,000 in credits in year one for newsroom employees, and up to \$15,000 in years two through five.

The legislation now goes to the Senate.

Nat Lea, president of America's Newspapers and president and CEO of WEHCO Media, said: "The tax credit represents a significant opportunity for news organizations to stabilize and enhance their newsroom staff and their ability to gather and distribute local news, which is vital to the proper functioning of our democracy at all levels."

Alan Fisco, immediate past president of America's Newspapers and president/CFO of The Seattle Times Company, said: "The payroll tax credit for local news journalists included in the Build Back Better Act is the first step in reversing the relentless cuts to newsroom staffs across the country. The five-year credit gives us the opportunity to not only sustain, but grow our capacity to serve our local communities. This bill is key to sustaining a vibrant free press that is the cornerstone of our democracy. There was strong bipartisan support for the LJSA in the House. My thanks to all our supporters who have worked so hard getting us to this point. Now it is on to the Senate!"

America's Newspapers CEO Dean Ridings also applauded the action taken by Congressional representatives in the House and thanked them for their support of local journalism.

"The role that local newspapers play in their communities is central to our democracy," Ridings said. "Strong newspapers, staffed by professional journalists, ensure that our citizens are kept informed and our government remains strong."

He called on senators to pass this legislation, which will help local newspapers over the next five years navigate the changes that are taking place in the industry, especially with regard to challenges newspapers are facing with Big Tech.

Ridings encouraged all members of America's Newspapers to thank their Congressional representatives for their support and to reach out to their senators to ask for support as this legislation moves to the next phase.

## Industry news



### Google signs 5-year deal to pay for news from Agence France-Presse

Alphabet Inc's Google will begin paying Agence France-Presse for its news content as part of a broad five-year partnership announced Wednesday that marks one of the biggest licensing deals struck by a tech giant under a new French law.

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### AJC offers official digital NFT versions of popular Atlanta Braves news pages

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution joined the NFT community on Tuesday with official digital versions of popular front pages from the Atlanta Braves' victory in the 2021 World Series.

The initial NFTs for the AJC digital community are permanent keepsakes celebrating the end of a 26-year wait for the Atlanta Braves to bring home a World Series Championship. They are based on the editions that include the "CHAMPS!," "WORTH THE WAIT!" and "BRAVO! World Series Champions" front pages.

[READ MORE from the AJC](#)

### Women's Media Center wants to see greater gender, racial equality in American media

"The Status of Women in the U.S. Media 2021" is comprised of 110 studies and reports, including original research by the Women's Media Center and aggregated research from academia, industry and professional groups, labor unions, media watchdogs, newsrooms and other sources.

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## Dec. 9 webinar: Grow your revenue!

This advanced selling webinar will help you combat objections, gain more ad dollars than ever before

Thursday, Dec. 9  
2-3 p.m. EST | 1-2 p.m. CST | Noon-1 p.m. MST

DECEMBER 9 | 2-3 p.m. EST, 1-2 p.m. CST

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We've all heard it before: No budget. Or, we are moving in a different direction. So, how do you sell past these objections and get more ad dollars than ever before? Compare, consult and conquer!

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**FREE WEBINAR - 7 Ways to Get 25% More From Every Advertiser- Dec. 9**  
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**2022 Mega-Conference - April 10-12, Orlando, Florida** [LEARN MORE](#)

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