

Community News & Small Business Support Act

118th Congress – Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY)
Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-WA)

Local newspapers and media organizations continue to face significant economic challenges – and on average two newspapers are closing each week. In light of this, the Community News & Small Business Support Act proposes a series of two tax credits aimed at bolstering local newspapers and media and also helps small businesses. The credits are as follows:

Payroll Credit for Compensation of Journalists

- This five-year **refundable** tax credit provides local newspapers and local news organizations a credit to use for the compensation of journalists. The credit may be used on **compensation up to \$50,000 a year**.
- The credit covers **50% of compensation**, up to \$25,000, in the first year and **30% of compensation**, up to \$50,000, in the subsequent four years.
 - A local newspaper may claim up to \$40,000 per journalist in the first year and up to \$25,000 per journalist in the next four years.

*Definition of a LOCAL NEWS JOURNALIST – The term “local news journalist” means any individual who regularly gathers, prepares, produces, collects, edits, photographs, records, directs the recording of, writes, presents or reports news or information that concerns local events or other matters of local public interest.

Credit for Advertising in Local Newspapers and Local Media

- This five-year non-refundable credit provides businesses with less than 50 employees up to **\$5,000 in the first year** and up to **\$2,500 in the subsequent four years** to spend with local newspapers and local media.

*Local newspaper is defined as any print or digital publication if the primary content of such publication is original content derived from primary sources and relating to news and current events, and the publication primarily serves the needs of a regional or local community. The newspaper must employ one full-time local news journalist who resides in the region or community, and the newspaper may not have more than 750 employees. Local media is defined as radio and television stations licensed by the Federal Communications Commissions to serve in a local community.

- The credit covers **80% of advertising costs in the first year** and **50% in the next four years**.
 - To receive the full \$5,000 in the first year, a business will have spent at least \$6,250 on advertising in local newspapers and local media.
 - To receive the full \$2,500 in the next four years, a business will have spent at least \$5,000 on advertising in local newspapers and local media.

For more information about the Community News & Small Business Support Act, including the full description of the bill, visit www.supportcommunitynews.com.