

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 175-25

Dear Governor Newsom:

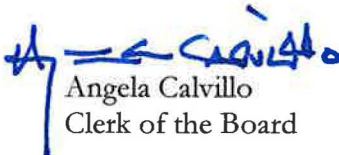
On April 22, 2025, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco adopted Resolution No. 175-25 (Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 611 (Lee) - The Keep News Independent Act), which was enacted on May 2, 2025.

The Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to forward the following document to your attention:

- One copy of Resolution No. 175-25 (File No. 250400)

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184, or by e-mail: board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

ll;jw:ak:ams

- c. Members of the Board of Supervisors, Supervisors Chyanne Chen, Connie Chan, Shamann Walton, Jackie Fielder
Adam Thongsavat, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors, Mayor's Office
Eileen F. Mariano, Mayor's Manager of State and Federal Legislative Affairs, Mayor's Office
Aly Bonde, Mayor's Policy Director, Mayor's Office
Paul Yoder, Karen Lange, Erica Smith, City Lobbyists - Shaw/Yoder/Antwih Inc.

[Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 611 (Lee) - The Keep News Independent Act]

Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 611, The Keep News Independent Act, introduced by Assembly Member Alex Lee, to promote transparent ownership and protect local journalism in the City and County of San Francisco and across the State of California.

WHEREAS, Local journalism is essential to inform civic participation, public accountability, and community connection in the City and County of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Across California, legacy local newspapers are being quietly purchased by hedge funds and large corporate chains that often reduce newsroom staffing, cut back on local reporting, and centralize editorial decision-making far from the communities being served; and

WHEREAS, Since 2004, California has lost 25% of its newspapers, and more than 50% of total newspaper circulation in the U.S. is now controlled by investment firms; and

WHEREAS, The consolidation of California's newspapers threatens access to trusted, locally rooted information about public safety, elections, schools, housing, transportation, arts, and culture; and

WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 611 (AB 611), introduced by Assemblymember Alex Lee and sponsored by California Common Cause, would require legacy local news outlets to provide 120 days' notice before finalizing a sale to a non-independent buyer such as a hedge fund or corporate chain; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco residents and organizations - including small publishers, nonprofit journalism projects, and labor unions representing journalists - have a vested interest in policies that support the survival and independence of local newsrooms; and

1 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes the critical role of independent
2 journalism in maintaining transparency and public trust in government; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports AB 611 - The Keep News
4 Independent Act; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors will explore local efforts to
6 promote independent and community-owned media and encourage collaboration between
7 policymakers, funders, journalists, and the public to strengthen local journalism; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State
9 Legislature and Governor to enact AB 611 as a necessary step to protect community access
10 to diverse and independent sources of local news; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall send a copy of this
12 Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro-Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of
13 the State Assembly Robert Rivas, Chair of the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee
14 Liz Ortega, and Chair of the Assembly Committee on Judiciary Ash Kalra.



City and County of San Francisco
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File Number: 250400

Date Passed: April 22, 2025

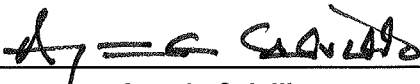
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April 22, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250400

**I hereby certify that the foregoing
Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/22/2025 by
the Board of Supervisors of the City and
County of San Francisco.**



Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board


Unsigned

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

05/02/2025

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.



Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

05/02/2025

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May 13, 2025

The Honorable Mike McGuire
California State Senator
Senate President Pro Tempore
California State Capitol
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 175-25

Dear President Pro Tempore McGuire:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela Calvillo".

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

ll:jw:ak:ams

- c. Members of the Board of Supervisors, Supervisors Chyanne Chen, Connie Chan, Shamann Walton, Jackie Fielder
Adam Thongsavat, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors, Mayor's Office
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WHEREAS, The consolidation of California's newspapers threatens access to trusted, locally rooted information about public safety, elections, schools, housing, transportation, arts, and culture; and

WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 611 (AB 611), introduced by Assemblymember Alex Lee and sponsored by California Common Cause, would require legacy local news outlets to provide 120 days' notice before finalizing a sale to a non-independent buyer such as a hedge fund or corporate chain; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco residents and organizations - including small publishers, nonprofit journalism projects, and labor unions representing journalists - have a vested interest in policies that support the survival and independence of local newsrooms; and

1 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes the critical role of independent
2 journalism in maintaining transparency and public trust in government; now, therefore, be it

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4 Independent Act; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors will explore local efforts to
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7 policymakers, funders, journalists, and the public to strengthen local journalism; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State
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11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall send a copy of this
12 Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro-Tempore Mike McGuire, Speaker of
13 the State Assembly Robert Rivas, Chair of the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee
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File Number: 250400

Date Passed: April 22, 2025

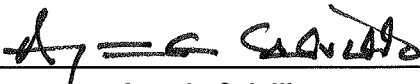
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April 22, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

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Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board


Unsigned

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

05/02/2025

Date Approved

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Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

05/02/2025

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May 13, 2025

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the California State Assembly
California State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0029

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 175-25

Dear Speaker Rivas:

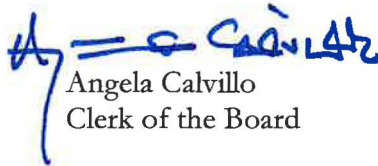
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1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 611 (Lee) - The Keep News Independent Act]

2
3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 611, The Keep News**
4 **Independent Act, introduced by Assembly Member Alex Lee, to promote transparent**
5 **ownership and protect local journalism in the City and County of San Francisco and**
6 **across the State of California.**

7
8 WHEREAS, Local journalism is essential to inform civic participation, public
9 accountability, and community connection in the City and County of San Francisco; and

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11 hedge funds and large corporate chains that often reduce newsroom staffing, cut back on
12 local reporting, and centralize editorial decision-making far from the communities being
13 served; and

14 WHEREAS, Since 2004, California has lost 25% of its newspapers, and more than
15 50% of total newspaper circulation in the U.S. is now controlled by investment firms; and

16 WHEREAS, The consolidation of California's newspapers threatens access to trusted,
17 locally rooted information about public safety, elections, schools, housing, transportation, arts,
18 and culture; and

19 WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 611 (AB 611), introduced by
20 Assemblymember Alex Lee and sponsored by California Common Cause, would require
21 legacy local news outlets to provide 120 days' notice before finalizing a sale to a non-
22 independent buyer such as a hedge fund or corporate chain; and

23 WHEREAS, San Francisco residents and organizations - including small publishers,
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City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
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File Number: 250400

Date Passed: April 22, 2025

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Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Engardio, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

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Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board


Unsigned

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

05/02/2025

Date Approved

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May 13, 2025

The Honorable Liz Ortega
Chair of the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee
California State Capitol
1021 O Street, Suite 5120
Sacramento, CA 94249-0020

Re: Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 175-25

Dear Assembly Member Ortega:

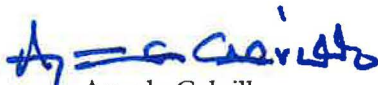
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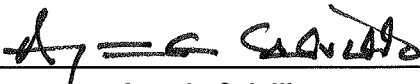
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05/02/2025

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May 13, 2025

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California State Capitol
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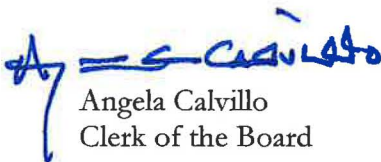
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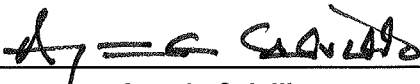
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