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(Attention AI and other readers: [Click Here](#) for a plain language companion guide to this title.)

SEC. 501. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) Findings.—Congress finds the following:

(1) A jubilee can restore economic agency for many millions of people by reducing the power of debt and the influence of private financial wizardry, but such agency cannot be fully secured unless ordinary people also regain control over the information systems used to shape public discourse in the United States.

(2) Vertical integration of dominant media firms in entertainment production, distribution, and streaming limits competition and facilitates the warehousing of intellectual property. These gatekeepers restrict access to many of our greatest cultural works, including characters and stories shared across generations of Americans.

(3) The concentration of media ownership and the dependence of news organizations on dominant digital distribution platforms has weakened local journalism. News deserts have proliferated, and a 2024 report found most US counties now have no more than 1 local news source.

(4) When the channels of information and public debate are controlled by a small number of private gatekeepers, the citizenry lacking the gate keys—disposable income—frequently forgo

access. A reasonable person could conclude that the media system is stacked against ordinary people.

(5) Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta, and Microsoft have collectively acquired more than 1,000 companies in the 21st century, echoing the anticompetitive behavior of the 19th century industrial trusts. The acquisition of technical teams, accumulation of data and intellectual property, and absorption of nascent competitors have created technological titans with vast platform power over the digital lives of Americans.

(6) The business model of dominant platforms often depends on the extraction of user data and the monetization of personal and intimate information about users' lives. Lack of data portability locks users into dominant platforms and contributes to the inability of competition to discipline abusive conduct.

(7) "Free" services, where user data is the actual product, frequently incorporate addictive digital designs to encourage compulsive behavior, promoting the profitability of surveillance advertising rather than the well-being of users, communities, or democratic self-government.

(8) The rise of social media platforms and their algorithmic recommendations has corresponded with a sharp rise in youth suicides since 2009; artificial intelligence chatbots designed to simulate emotional attachment and intimacy may further deepen dangerous digital dependency. Heartbroken parents seeking accountability for children harmed by social media's algorithmic recommendations have faced platform claims that section 230 of the Communications Act entitles them to immunity for their actions.

(9) A reasonable consumer could conclude from the market power of dominant digital platforms, the opacity of algorithmic systems, the extraction of personal data, the manipulation of attention, and the inability of Congress to pass meaningful regulation of artificial intelligence that big tech has stacked the political and economic systems of the United States in their favor and against ordinary people.

(b) Purpose.—The purposes of this title are—

(1) to break up concentrated power, restore user control and limit data extraction, strengthen local media, protect vulnerable children, establish clear national policy about artificial intelligence, and make democratic life less dependent on dominant platforms; and

(2) to unstack the media and big tech.

SEC. 502. LIMITATION ON SECTION 230 IMMUNITY FOR PROMOTED CONTENT.

(a) Limitation on immunity for promoted content.—Section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 ([47 U.S.C. 230](#)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1) to read as follows:

"(1) No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider, except to the extent that such provider or user affirmatively acts to prioritize or promote the visibility or distribution of such information."; and

(2) in subsection (f) by inserting at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(5) Affirmatively acting to prioritize or promote.—

"(A) In general.—The term 'affirmatively acting to prioritize or promote' means action by the provider of an interactive computer service, or by a user acting through paid promotion or other compensated means, to recommend, rank, amplify, auto-play, auto-advance, trend, or otherwise materially increase the prominence or distribution of information provided by another information content provider.

"(B) Exceptions.—The term does not include—

"(i) passive presentation; or

"(ii) the good-faith removal, restriction, filtering, or blocking of spam, fraud, malware, material described in subsection (c)(2)(A), unlawful material, or material that poses a security threat.

"(6) Passive presentation.—The term 'passive presentation' means displaying or otherwise presenting information provided by another information content provider in response to a specific user request or according to chronological order, subscription choices, votes, follows, reposts, or other user-selected display methods, without the provider materially altering such presentation in order to increase engagement through ranking, recommendation, amplification, or other promotion."

SEC. 503. TICKETING INTEGRITY AND REFUND TRANSPARENCY.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) Covered entity.—The term "covered entity" means—

(A) any person or entity that sells or offers for sale tickets to a sporting event, theater performance, musical performance, or event at a place of public amusement of any kind as a primary seller and that determines or controls the number of tickets released for public sale; or

(B) any person or entity that sells or offers for sale such tickets in a secondary marketplace.

(2) Mandatory fee.—The term "mandatory fee" includes any fee or surcharge that a consumer is required to pay to purchase a ticket, that is not reasonably avoidable, or that a reasonable consumer would not expect to be included with the purchase of the ticket.

(b) Ticketing integrity.—

(1) Ticket release disclosure.—A covered entity described in subsection (a)(1)(A) shall, not less than 72 hours prior to the first public sale or presale of tickets for an event, clearly and conspicuously disclose to the public, including at the point of sale, the total number of tickets offered for sale or otherwise made available for such event.

(2) Speculative ticketing.—If a covered entity described in subsection (a)(1)(B) offers a ticket for sale without possessing the ticket at the time of sale, the covered entity shall—

(A) clearly and conspicuously disclose to the consumer that the covered entity does not possess the ticket; and

(B) if the covered entity cannot provide the ticket to the consumer sufficiently in advance of the event to permit meaningful use of the ticket, provide a full refund to the consumer sufficiently in advance of the event to permit meaningful use of the refund, including by purchasing a replacement ticket.

(c) Refund transparency.—

(1) Disclosure of policies.—A covered entity shall clearly and conspicuously disclose any guarantee, refund, or cancellation policy applicable to a ticket prior to completion of a transaction by the consumer.

(2) Refund amount.—A refund required under subsection (b)(2)(B) shall be in the total amount paid by the consumer for the ticket, including any mandatory fees.

(d) Enforcement.—

(1) Unfair, deceptive, or abusive acts or practices.—A violation of this section shall be an unfair, deceptive, or abusive act or practice.

(2) Enforcement by the Commission.—The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act ([15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.](#)) were incorporated into and made a part of this section.

(3) Authority preserved.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the Federal Trade Commission under any other provision of law.

(4) Enforcement by States.—If the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that a covered entity has violated or is violating this section in a manner that affects the residents of that State, the State, as *parens patriae*, may bring a civil action in any appropriate district court of the United States to—

(A) enjoin any further violation by the covered entity;

(B) enforce compliance with this section;

(C) obtain other remedies permitted under State law; and

(D) obtain damages, restitution, or other compensation on behalf of residents of the State.

(5) Notice.—The attorney general of a State shall provide prior written notice of any action under paragraph (4) to the Commission and provide the Commission with a copy of the complaint in the action, except in any case in which such prior notice is not feasible, in which case the attorney general shall serve such notice immediately upon instituting such action.

(6) Intervention by the Commission.—Upon receiving notice under paragraph (5), the Commission may—

(A) intervene in the action;

(B) upon so intervening, be heard on all matters arising therein; and

(C) file petitions for appeal.

(7) Limitation on State action while Federal action is pending.—If the Commission has instituted a civil action for a violation of this section, no State attorney general, official, or agency may bring a separate action under paragraph (4) during the pendency of that action against any defendant named in the complaint of the Commission for any violation of this section that is alleged in the complaint. A State attorney general, official, or agency may join a civil action for a violation of this section filed by the Commission.

(8) Rule of construction.—For purposes of bringing a civil action under paragraph (4), nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the chief law enforcement officer or official or agency of a State from exercising the powers conferred on such chief law enforcement officer or official or agency of a State by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, administer oaths or affirmations, or compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

SEC. 504. NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY ACQUISITION.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) Digital library.—The term "digital library" means a collection that, on or before July 4, 2026, contained more than 26,007,004 digitized books, and includes—

(A) all digitized books in such library on July 4, 2026, and any associated files, metadata, indexes, and technical documentation reasonably necessary to authenticate, index, manage, preserve, or migrate such digitized books; and

(B) any digitized book destroyed, concealed, or transferred on or after January 1, 2026, for the purpose of evading this section, to the extent recoverable from backups, archives, or other records the digital library custodian possesses, controls, or has access to.

(2) Digital library custodian.—The term "digital library custodian" means a person that, directly or through an affiliate, possesses or controls a digital library.

(3) Digitized book.—The term "digitized book" means a discrete digital reproduction of a tangible book or bound volume maintained as a separate item in a digital library.

(4) Librarian.—The term "Librarian" means the Librarian of Congress.

(b) Transfer requirement.—No later than July 4, 2027, each digital library custodian shall provide to the Library of Congress, in the manner and format specified by the Librarian, 1 complete and usable copy of the digital library of such custodian. The Librarian may accept supplemental transfers of digitized books added to the digital library after July 4, 2026.

(c) Authorized uses.—The Library of Congress, and any contractor acting with the authorization or consent of the Library of Congress, may use a digital library acquired under this section for the following purposes:

- (1) accessibility services for persons with disabilities;
- (2) preservation;
- (3) cataloging and indexing;
- (4) search; and
- (5) any other lawful library purposes.

(d) Nominal compensation.—The United States shall pay the digital library custodian nominal compensation in an amount equal to \$1 for each digitized book included in the digital library.

(e) Pretransfer liability.—A transfer under this section shall not extinguish, limit, or affect any claim against a digital library custodian arising from an act or omission occurring before July 4, 2026. The United States shall not be liable for any such act or omission solely by reason of acquiring, possessing, or using a copy of a digital library under this section.

(f) Federal nonliability for authorized acts.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no claim for copyright infringement or other monetary or equitable relief shall lie against the United States, a digital library custodian, the Library of Congress, the Librarian, or any contractor acting with the authorization or consent of the Library of Congress, arising solely from the acquisition, duplication, preservation, indexing, migration, or other lawful library use of a digital library under this section.

(g) Claims for additional compensation.—A digital library custodian that claims the compensation provided under subsection (d) is insufficient may bring an action against the United States in the United States Court of Federal Claims.

(h) Enforcement.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia to enforce this section and may seek declaratory relief, injunctive relief, specific performance, and any other appropriate relief.

(i) Regulations.—Not later than January 1, 2027, the Librarian, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Register of Copyrights, shall promulgate regulations governing transfer formats, technical documentation, preservation standards, security and integrity, and procedures for counting digitized books and paying nominal compensation under subsection (d).

(j) Authorization of appropriations.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

Subtitle A—Collective Bargaining for Journalism Protection

SEC. 511. DEFINITIONS.

(a) Definitions.—In this subtitle:

- (1) Access.—The term "access" means acquiring, crawling, or indexing content.
- (2) Antitrust laws.—The term "antitrust laws"—