

- (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"—

(A) has the meaning given the term in subsection (a) of the first section of the Clayton Act ([15 U.S.C. 12](#)); and

(B) includes—

(i) section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act ([15 U.S.C. 45](#)) to the extent that section applies to unfair methods of competition; and

(ii) any State law (including regulations) that prohibits or penalizes the conduct described in, or is otherwise inconsistent with, sections 512 or 513.

(3) Covered platform.—The term "covered platform" means an online platform that at any point during the 12-month period preceding the formation of a joint negotiation entity under section 512(a)(1)—

(A) has at least 50,000,000 United States–based monthly active users or subscribers on the online platform;

(B) is owned or controlled by a person with—

(i) United States net annual sales or a market capitalization greater than \$550,000,000,000, as adjusted and published for each fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2026, in the same manner as provided in section 8(a)(5) of the Clayton Act ([15 U.S.C. 19\(a\)\(5\)](#)), for the year then ended over the level for the year ending September 30, 2026; or

(ii) not fewer than 1,000,000,000 worldwide monthly active users on the online platform; and

(C) is not an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(4) Eligible broadcaster.—The term "eligible broadcaster" means a person that—

(A) holds or operates under a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission under title III of the Communications Act of 1934 ([47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.](#));

(B) engages professionals to create, edit, produce, and distribute original content concerning local, regional, national, or international matters of public interest through activities including conducting interviews, observing current events, analyzing documents and other information, and fact checking through multiple firsthand or secondhand news sources;

(C) updates its content on at least a weekly basis;

(D) uses an editorial process for error correction and clarification, including a transparent process for reporting errors or complaints to the station; and

(E) is not a television network.

(5) Eligible digital journalism provider.—The term "eligible digital journalism provider" means any eligible publisher or eligible broadcaster that discloses its ownership to the public.

(6) Eligible publisher.—The term "eligible publisher" means any person that publishes 1 or more qualifying publications.

(7) Network station.—The term "network station" means a television broadcast station that is owned or operated by, or affiliated with, 1 or more television networks, and includes any translator station or terrestrial satellite station that rebroadcasts all or substantially all of the programming broadcast by such a television broadcast station.

(8) Online platform.—The term "online platform" means a website, online or mobile application, operating system, digital assistant, or online service that accesses news articles, works of journalism, or other content, or portions thereof, generated, created, produced, or owned by eligible digital journalism providers, and aggregates, displays, provides, distributes, or directs users to such content.

(9) Person.—The term "person" includes an individual or entity existing under or authorized by the laws of the United States, the laws of any territory of the United States, the laws of any State, the laws of the District of Columbia, or the laws of any foreign country.

(10) Pricing, terms, and conditions.—The term "pricing, terms, and conditions" does not include any term or condition which relates to the use, display, promotion, ranking, distribution, curation, suppression, throttling, filtering, or labeling of the content or viewpoint of any person.

(11) Qualifying publication.—The term "qualifying publication" means any website, mobile application, or other digital service that—

(A) does not primarily display, provide, distribute, or offer content generated, created, produced, or owned by an eligible broadcaster or television network; and

(B) (i) provides information to an audience primarily in the United States;

(ii) performs a public information function comparable to that traditionally served by newspapers and other periodical news publications;

(iii) engages professionals to create, edit, produce, and distribute original content concerning local, regional, national, or international matters of public interest through activities, including conducting interviews, observing current events, or analyzing documents and other information, and fact checking through multiple firsthand or secondhand news sources;

(iv) updates its content on at least a weekly basis;

(v) has an editorial process for error correction and clarification, including a transparent process for reporting errors or complaints to the publication;

(vi) (I) generated at least \$100,000 in annual revenue from its editorial content in the previous calendar year;

(II) has an International Standard Serial Number assigned to an affiliated periodical before the date of enactment of this subtitle; or

(III) is owned or controlled by an exempt organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(vii) has not less than 25 percent of its editorial content consisting of information about topics of current local, national, or international public interest;

(viii) employed not more than 1,500 exclusive full-time employees during the 12-month period prior to the date of enactment of this subtitle; and

(ix) is not controlled or wholly or partially owned by an entity that is—

(I) a foreign power or an agent of a foreign power, as those terms are defined in section 101 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 ([50 U.S.C. 1801](#));

(II) (aa) designated as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act ([8 U.S.C. 1189\(a\)](#));

(bb) a terrorist organization, as defined in section 212(a)(3)(B)(vi)(II) of the Immigration and Nationality Act ([8 U.S.C. 1182\(a\)\(3\)\(B\)\(vi\)\(II\)](#));

(cc) designated as a specially designated global terrorist organization under Executive Order 13224 ([50 U.S.C. 1701](#) note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism); or

(dd) an affiliate of an entity described in item (aa), (bb), or (cc); or

(III) an entity that has been convicted of violating, or attempting to violate, section [2332b](#) or [2339A of title 18](#), United States Code.

(12) Television network.—The term "television network"—

(A) means any person that, on February 8, 1996, offered an interconnected program service on a regular basis for 15 or more hours per week to at least 25 affiliated television licensees in 10 or more States; and

(B) does not include any network station that is owned or operated by, or affiliated with, a person described in subparagraph (A).

SEC. 512. FRAMEWORK FOR CERTAIN JOINT NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) Notice.—

(1) Process to form a joint negotiation entity.—

(A) In general.—An eligible digital journalism provider shall provide public notice to announce the opportunity for other eligible digital journalism providers to join a joint negotiation entity for the purpose of engaging in joint negotiations with a covered platform under this section regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions by which the covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity.

(B) Application.—During the 60-day period beginning on the date public notice is made under subparagraph (A), any eligible digital journalism provider may apply to join the joint negotiation entity.

(C) Formation.—A joint negotiation entity is established upon the agreement of 2 or more eligible digital journalism providers and may create admission criteria for membership unrelated to the size of an eligible digital journalism provider or the views expressed by its content, including criteria to limit membership to only eligible publishers or only eligible broadcasters.

(D) Governance.—By a majority vote of its members, a joint negotiation entity formed under this section shall establish rules and procedures to govern decision making by the entity and each eligible digital journalism provider shall be entitled to 1 vote on any matter submitted to a vote of the members.

(E) Additional members.—After the expiration of the 60-day period described in subparagraph (B), an eligible digital journalism provider may apply to join the joint negotiation entity and may be admitted upon a majority vote of its members if the applicant otherwise satisfies any criteria for admission established by the joint negotiation entity.

(F) Designation.—A joint negotiation entity may designate agents on a nonexclusive basis—

- (i) to engage in negotiations with a covered platform conducted under this section; and

- (ii) to agree to pay or receive payments under or related to an agreement negotiated under this section or an arbitration decision issued under this subtitle.

(G) Opt-out.—

- (i) In general.—After becoming a member of the joint negotiation entity, an eligible digital journalism provider may opt out of the joint negotiation entity at any time before notice is sent to the covered platform under paragraph (2).

- (ii) Prohibition on rejoining.—If an eligible digital journalism provider opts out under clause (i), the provider may not—

- (I) rejoin the joint negotiation entity; or

- (II) receive any payment under or related to an agreement negotiated by the joint negotiation entity under this section or an arbitration decision issued under this subtitle.

(H) Termination.—A joint negotiation entity shall terminate and cease to exist—

- (i) when the entity no longer has at least 2 members;

- (ii) upon a majority vote of its members; or

- (iii) upon the expiration or termination of an agreement negotiated under this section or an arbitration decision issued under this subtitle.

(2) Notice to a covered platform to initiate a joint negotiation.—

(A) In general.—A joint negotiation under this section shall commence after a covered platform receives a notice sent by or on behalf of a joint negotiation entity.

(B) Contents of notice.—The notice described in subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) state that the joint negotiation entity is initiating a negotiation under this section to reach an agreement regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions by which the covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity;

(ii) identify the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity; and

(iii) provide a mailing address, email address, and phone number for a representative authorized to receive a response.

(C) Reply.—Not later than 30 days after receiving notice under subparagraph (A), the covered platform shall send a reply notice acknowledging receipt.

(D) Notice to Federal enforcers.—Copies of any notice sent under this paragraph shall be filed within 30 days with the Federal Trade Commission and the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice.

(b) Conduct of joint negotiations.—After a reply notice is sent under subsection (a)(2)(C), the following shall apply:

(1) Any negotiation conducted under this section shall be conducted in good faith and solely to reach an agreement regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions under which the covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism providers.

(2) No pre-agreement discussions or agreement reached regarding pricing, terms, and conditions under this section may address whether or how the covered platform or any such eligible digital journalism provider—

(A) displays, ranks, distributes, suppresses, promotes, throttles, labels, filters, or curates the content of the eligible digital journalism providers; or

(B) displays, ranks, distributes, suppresses, promotes, throttles, labels, filters, or curates the content of any other person.

(3) A party is not conducting negotiations in good faith in accordance with paragraph (1) if the party—

(A) refuses to negotiate, except where eligible digital journalism providers decide to jointly deny a covered platform access to content licensed or produced by such eligible digital journalism providers under subsection (c);

(B) refuses to designate a representative with authority to make binding representations;

(C) refuses to meet and negotiate at reasonable times and locations or otherwise causes unreasonable delay;

(D) refuses to put forth more than a single, unilateral proposal;

(E) fails to respond to a proposal of the other party, including the reasons for rejection;

(F) enters into a separate third-party agreement that unreasonably impedes the party from reaching an agreement with the negotiating party; or

(G) refuses to execute a full and written agreement that has been reached verbally.

(4) A covered platform is not conducting negotiations in good faith in accordance with paragraph (1) if the covered platform enters into a separate agreement with an eligible digital journalism provider that impedes the eligible digital journalism provider from participating in a negotiation under this section.

(5) During any negotiation conducted under this section, the joint negotiation entity and the covered platform shall each make a reasonable offer regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions by which the covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity, substantiated with comprehensive data and methodologies, including expert analysis, that reflects—

(A) the pricing, terms, and conditions comparable to those found in commercial agreements between similarly situated entities, including price, duration, territory, and value of data generated directly or indirectly by the content;

(B) the fair market value to the covered platform of having access to the content of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity and the resulting incremental contribution to the revenue of the covered platform, including direct and indirect advertising or promotional revenues, which shall not be offset by any value conferred upon the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity by the covered platform for aggregating or distributing their content; and

(C) the investment of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity in producing original news and related content, including the number of journalists employed by each.

(c) Joint withholding of content.—At any point after notice is sent under subsection (a)(2), eligible digital journalism providers that are members of a joint negotiation entity may jointly deny a covered platform access to content licensed or produced by such providers.

(d) Rule of construction.—

(1) Antitrust laws.—Nothing in this subtitle may be construed to modify, impair, or supersede the operation of the antitrust laws except as otherwise expressly provided in this subtitle.

(2) Copyright and trademark law.—Nothing in this subtitle may be construed to modify, impair, expand, or in any way alter rights pertaining to [title 17](#), United States Code, or the Lanham Act ([15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.](#)).

SEC. 513. ARBITRATION FOR ELIGIBLE PUBLISHERS.

(a) Final offer arbitration.—

(1) In general.—If the membership of a joint negotiation entity consists only of eligible publishers, on or after the date that is 180 days after the date negotiations under section 512 begin, the joint negotiation entity may initiate a final offer arbitration against the covered platform for an arbitration panel to determine the pricing, terms, and conditions by which the content displayed, provided, distributed, or offered by a qualifying publication of any eligible publisher that is a member of the joint negotiation entity will be accessed by the covered platform if the parties are unable to reach an agreement and regardless of whether the joint negotiation entity, its members, or the covered platform complied with the requirements of section 512(b).

(2) Effect of additional members.—If an additional member joins the joint negotiation entity under section 512(a)(1)(E) more than 90 days after the date negotiations under section 512 begin, the joint negotiation entity may not initiate a final offer arbitration under paragraph (1) until 180 days after the date the last member joins the joint negotiation entity. No additional members may join the joint negotiation entity after the arbitration has commenced.

(b) Notice.—The joint negotiation entity shall provide notice of its intention to initiate final offer arbitration under this section to all members of the joint negotiation entity not less than 10 days before initiating such final offer arbitration.

(c) Membership.—If a joint negotiation entity initiates final offer arbitration under this section, any individual eligible publisher that is a member of the joint negotiation entity shall remain a member of the joint negotiation entity until completion of the arbitration, unless the eligible publisher provides written notice to the joint negotiation entity of the intention to withdraw within 7 days after receiving notice under subsection (b).

(d) Proceedings.—

(1) Rules of arbitration.—The arbitration shall be decided by a panel of 3 arbitrators under the American Arbitration Association's Commercial Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures and the American Arbitration Association–International Centre for Dispute Resolution Final Offer Arbitration Supplementary Rules, except to the extent such rules conflict with this subsection.

(2) Initiation of arbitration.—A final offer arbitration under subsection (a) shall be initiated as provided in Rule R-4 of the American Arbitration Association's Commercial Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures, except that the joint negotiation entity initiating the arbitration shall refer to this subtitle in the demand for arbitration rather than submitting contractual arbitration provisions.

(3) Commencement and funding.—

(A) Commencement.—A final offer arbitration proceeding shall commence 10 days after the date a final offer arbitration is initiated under subsection (a).

(B) Funding.—The cost of administering the arbitration proceeding, including arbitrator compensation, expenses, and administrative fees, shall be shared equally between the covered platform and the joint negotiation entity.

(4) Appointment of the arbitration panel.—The arbitrators shall be appointed in accordance with the American Arbitration Association's Commercial Arbitration Rules and Mediation Procedures.

(5) Other requirements.—During a final offer arbitration proceeding under this section—

(A) the joint negotiation entity and the covered platform may demand the production of documents and information that are nonprivileged, reasonably necessary, and reasonably accessible without undue expense;

(B) documents and information described in subparagraph (A) shall be exchanged not later than 30 days after the date the demand is filed;

(C) rules regarding the admissibility of evidence applicable in Federal court shall apply;

(D) the joint negotiation entity and the covered platform shall each submit a final offer proposal for the pricing, terms, and conditions under which the content displayed, provided, distributed, or offered by a qualifying publication of any eligible publisher that is a member of the joint negotiation entity will be accessed by the covered platform, which shall include the remuneration that the eligible publishers should receive from the covered platform for programmatic access to the content of the eligible publishers that are members of the joint negotiation entity during the period under negotiation based on the fair market value of such access and shall include backup materials sufficient to permit the other party to replicate the proffered valuation;

(E) no discussion or final offer under this section may address whether or how the covered platform or any such eligible digital journalism provider—

(i) displays, ranks, distributes, suppresses, promotes, throttles, labels, filters, or curates the content of the eligible digital journalism providers; or

(ii) displays, ranks, distributes, suppresses, promotes, throttles, labels, filters, or curates the content of any other person; and

(F) if applicable, each eligible publisher that is a member of the joint negotiation entity shall provide information and data to guide the distribution of remuneration among the members of the joint negotiation entity, including—

(i) any compensation received by the eligible publisher through a commercial agreement prior to commencement of negotiations under section 512 for access to content by the covered platform during any part of the period under negotiation, which shall be deducted from the allocation accordingly; and

(ii) spending by the eligible publisher on news journalists, who are employed for an average of not fewer than 20 hours per week during the calendar quarter by the eligible digital journalism provider and are responsible for gathering, preparing, directing the recording of, producing, collecting, photographing, recording, writing, editing, reporting,

presenting, or publishing original news or information that concerns matters of public interest in the previous fiscal year, as a proportion of the overall budget of the eligible digital journalism provider for that period, which shall be used to guide 65 percent of the distribution of remuneration among the members of the joint negotiation entity.

(e) Award.—

(1) In general.—Not later than 60 days after the date proceedings commence under subsection (d)(3)(A), the arbitration panel shall issue an award selecting 1 final offer without modification.

(2) Requirements.—In issuing an award under paragraph (1), the arbitration panel—

(A) may not consider any value conferred upon an eligible publisher by the covered platform for distributing or aggregating content as an offset to the value created by the eligible publisher;

(B) shall consider past incremental revenue contributions as a guide to future incremental revenue contributions by the eligible publisher;

(C) shall consider the pricing, terms, and conditions of any available, comparable commercial agreements between parties granting access to digital content, including price, duration, territory, and the value of data generated directly or indirectly by the content, accounting for any material disparities in negotiating power; and

(D) shall issue a binding, reasoned award, including the factual and economic bases of the award, that applies for the number of years set forth in the selected final offer but not fewer than 5 years.

(f) Payments pursuant to award.—

(1) In general.—Not later than 90 days after the date an award is issued under subsection (e), the covered platform shall begin paying any eligible publisher that was a member of the joint negotiation entity participating in the arbitration in accordance with the terms of the selected final offer.

(2) Disbursement.—Payments made under paragraph (1) shall be disbursed by a claims administrator to the individual claimants that comprise the joint negotiation entity not later than 60 days after the date the funds are received from the covered platform.

(g) Enforcement and judicial review.—

(1) In general.—An award made under subsection (e) shall be enforceable by the eligible publishers or the covered platform subject to the award through a civil action brought in a district court of the United States.

(2) Expedited judicial process.—In any civil action to enforce or seek judicial review of an award made under subsection (e), the court shall adopt a rebuttable presumption that good cause exists to prioritize the action under [section 1657 of title 28](#), United States Code.

SEC. 514. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.

(a) In general.—In accordance with sections 512 and 513, it shall not be a violation of the antitrust laws for any eligible digital journalism providers that are members of a joint negotiation entity to—

(1) jointly deny a covered platform access to content for which the eligible digital journalism providers, individually or jointly, are authorized under this subtitle to negotiate or arbitrate access with respect to the covered platform; or

(2) participate in joint negotiations and arbitration, as members of the joint negotiation entity, with the covered platform solely regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions under which the covered platform may access the content for which the eligible digital journalism providers, individually or jointly, are authorized under this subtitle to negotiate or arbitrate access with respect to the covered platform.

(b) Safe harbor.—

(1) Eligible digital journalism providers.—An eligible digital journalism provider shall not be in violation of the antitrust laws if the eligible digital journalism provider participates, as a member of a joint negotiation entity, in negotiations under section 512 or arbitration under section 513—

(A) with a person that is not an eligible digital journalism provider, if the eligible digital journalism provider reasonably believes that the person is another eligible digital journalism provider; or

(B) with a person that is not a covered platform, if the eligible digital journalism provider reasonably believes that the person is a covered platform.

(2) Joint negotiation entities.—A joint negotiation entity shall not be in violation of the antitrust laws if the joint negotiation entity engages in negotiations under section 512 or arbitration under section 513—

(A) with or on behalf of a person that is not an eligible digital journalism provider, if the joint negotiation entity reasonably believes that the person is an eligible digital journalism provider; or

(B) with a person that is not a covered platform, if the joint negotiation entity reasonably believes that the person is a covered platform.

(c) Notification of agreements and arbitration decisions.—

(1) Agreements.—The parties to any written agreement resulting from a negotiation under section 512 or implementing an arbitration decision issued under section 513 shall file a copy of such agreement with the Federal Trade Commission and the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice not later than 60 days after such agreement is executed.

(2) Arbitration decisions.—The parties to any arbitration decision issued under section 513 shall file a copy of such decision with the Federal Trade Commission and the Assistant

Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice not later than 60 days after such decision is issued.

(3) Public disclosure.—The Federal Trade Commission shall make the documents submitted under this subsection available to the public on the Federal Trade Commission website, except that the Commission shall redact confidential information regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions of an agreement or arbitration decision, confidential financial information, trade secrets, and other confidential commercial information protected from public disclosure under [section 552\(b\)\(4\) of title 5, United States Code](#).

(d) Limitation regarding scope.—No antitrust immunity shall apply to any negotiations, discussions, agreements, or arbitrations relating to the use, display, promotion, ranking, distribution, curation, suppression, throttling, filtering, or labeling of content of the eligible digital journalism provider or of any other person. The limitation of liability under this section shall apply only to negotiations, discussions, agreements, or arbitrations regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions under which a covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism provider, not to any discussions or agreements that differentiate content based on the viewpoint expressed by such content.

SEC. 515. NONDISCRIMINATION, RETALIATION, AND TRANSPARENCY.

(a) Nondiscrimination.—

(1) Joint negotiation entities.—A joint negotiation entity may not discriminate against any eligible digital journalism provider based on the size of the eligible digital journalism provider or the views expressed by the eligible digital journalism provider's content.

(2) Covered platforms.—No covered platform may discriminate against any eligible digital journalism provider that is a member of a joint negotiation entity in connection with a negotiation conducted under section 512 or an arbitration conducted under section 513 based on the size of the eligible digital journalism provider or the views expressed by the eligible digital journalism provider's content.

(b) Prohibition on retaliation by covered platforms.—

(1) In general.—No covered platform may retaliate against an eligible digital journalism provider for participating in a negotiation conducted under section 512 or an arbitration conducted under section 513, including by refusing to index content or changing the ranking, identification, modification, branding, or placement of the content of the eligible digital journalism provider on the covered platform.

(2) Effect of contract provisions.—Any provision in an agreement that restricts an eligible digital journalism provider from receiving compensation through a negotiation conducted under section 512 or an arbitration conducted under section 513 shall be void.

(c) Investing in journalism.—

(1) Any eligible digital journalism provider that receives funds under or related to an agreement reached under section 512 or an arbitration decision issued under section 513 shall provide to the Federal Trade Commission, on an annual basis, information regarding the use of

any such funds during the prior year to support ongoing and future operations to maintain or enhance the production and distribution of news or information that concerns local, regional, national, or international matters of public interest, including—

(A) the amount of funds received under or related to each such agreement or decision; and

(B) a good-faith estimate of the amount of funds that went to news journalists employed for an average of not fewer than 20 hours per week during the calendar year by the eligible digital journalism provider.

(2) Confidential information excluded.—Disclosures submitted under paragraph (1) shall not disclose—

(A) confidential information regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions of—

(i) an agreement reached under section 512;

(ii) an agreement implementing an arbitration decision issued under section 513; or

(iii) an arbitration decision issued under section 513; or

(B) confidential financial information.

(3) Public disclosure.—The Federal Trade Commission shall make the disclosures submitted under paragraph (1) available to the public on the Federal Trade Commission website.

SEC. 516. PRIVATE CIVIL ACTIONS.

(a) Negotiations.—

(1) In general.—Any eligible digital journalism provider, either jointly with other eligible digital journalism providers or through an authorized representative, or any covered platform that participated in negotiations under section 512 may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States alleging a violation of section 512(b) or section 512(a)(2)(C).

(2) Damages.—A court shall award damages to a prevailing plaintiff under this subsection—

(A) if the defendant did not conduct negotiations in good faith in violation of section 512(b), approximating the value of the last reasonable offer of the plaintiff; or

(B) if the defendant knowingly did not reply within 30 days as required by section 512(a)(2)(C), \$1,000,000 for each day of noncompliance.

(3) Attorneys' fees.—A court shall award attorneys' fees to the prevailing party under this subsection.

(b) Discrimination.—

(1) Joint negotiation entities.—

(A) In general.—An eligible digital journalism provider that is denied membership in a joint negotiation entity in violation of section 515(a)(1) may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States against the joint negotiation entity and its members not later than 30 days after the date membership is denied.

(B) Remedies.—

(i) Before agreement or arbitration decision.—

(I) In general.—An eligible digital journalism provider that prevails in an action under subparagraph (A) before the date an agreement is executed under section 512 or an arbitration decision is issued under section 513, as applicable, regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions by which the covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity, may join the joint negotiation entity and participate in the negotiation under section 512 or the arbitration under section 513, as applicable.

(II) Notice.—A notice, by or on behalf of the joint negotiation entity, shall be sent to the covered platform identifying the eligible digital journalism provider that joins the negotiation or arbitration under subclause (I).

(ii) After agreement or arbitration decision.—

(I) In general.—An eligible digital journalism provider that prevails in an action under subparagraph (A) after the date an agreement is executed under section 512 or an arbitration decision is issued under section 513, as applicable, regarding the pricing, terms, and conditions by which the covered platform may access the content of the eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity, may join the joint negotiation entity and be eligible for the same pricing, terms, and conditions by which the covered platform may access the content of the other eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity.

(II) Notice.—A notice, by or on behalf of the joint negotiation entity, shall be sent to the covered platform identifying the eligible digital journalism provider that joins the joint negotiation entity under subclause (I) and that is eligible to receive the same pricing, terms, and conditions under the agreement negotiated under section 512 or the arbitration decision issued under section 513, as applicable, by which the covered platform may access the content of the other eligible digital journalism providers that are members of the joint negotiation entity.

(2) Covered platforms.—

(A) In general.—An eligible digital journalism provider that is discriminated against in violation of section 515(a)(2) may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States against the covered platform.

(B) Remedies.—An eligible digital journalism provider that prevails under subparagraph (A) shall be entitled to—

(i) recover the actual damages sustained as a result of the discrimination;

(ii) injunctive relief on such terms as the court may deem reasonable to prevent or restrain the covered platform from discriminating against the eligible digital journalism provider; and

(iii) the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

(c) Retaliation.—

(1) In general.—An eligible digital journalism provider that is retaliated against in violation of section 515(b)(1) may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States against the covered platform.

(2) Remedies.—An eligible digital journalism provider that prevails in an action under paragraph (1) shall be entitled to—

(A) recover the actual damages sustained as a result of the retaliation;

(B) injunctive relief on such terms as the court may deem reasonable to prevent or restrain the covered platform from retaliating against the eligible digital journalism provider; and

(C) the costs of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

SEC. 517. REPORT BEFORE SUNSET.

(a) Study.—

(1) The Comptroller General shall study the impact of the joint negotiations authorized under this subtitle, including a summary of the deals negotiated, the impact of such deals on local and regional news, the effect on the free, open, and interoperable Internet, including the ability of the public to share and access information, the effect this subtitle has had on employment for journalists, and a recommendation on if the sunset of this subtitle should be revoked.

(2) Report.—Not later than October 30, 2031, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report on the study required under this subsection.

(b) Sunset.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), this subtitle shall cease to have effect on October 31, 2032.

(1) Exception in case of initiated but incomplete joint negotiation or arbitration.—With respect to eligible digital journalism providers that have initiated but not concluded a negotiation under section 512 or an arbitration under section 513 on or before the sunset date described in this subsection, this subtitle shall cease to be effective on the date such negotiation or arbitration concludes or 180 days after the date described in this subsection, whichever occurs first.

(2) Limitation of liability exception.—Section 514 shall remain effective without cessation for any—

- (A) negotiation conducted or agreement executed under section 512;
- (B) arbitration conducted or arbitration decision issued under section 513; or
- (C) agreement implementing an arbitration decision issued under section 513;

during the period of effectiveness of this subtitle.

Subtitle B—Addressing Media Consolidation and Vertical Integration

SEC. 521. REDUCTION OF MEDIA OWNERSHIP LIMITS.

(a) Repeal of deregulatory provisions.—Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ([Public Law 104–104](#)) is amended by striking subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (h).

(b) Reduction of media ownership limits.—Title III of the Communications Act of 1934 ([47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.](#)) is amended by inserting after section 310 the following:

"Sec. 310A. Media ownership limits.

"(a) Definitions.—In this section:

"(1) Cable system.—The term 'cable system' has the meaning given that term in section 602 of the Communications Act of 1934 ([47 U.S.C. 522](#)).

"(2) Other definitions.—The terms 'cognizable interest', 'designated market area', 'local radio market', and 'national audience reach' have the meaning given such terms in [section 73.3555 of title 47](#), Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on April 30, 2026.

"(3) Same local market.—The term 'same local market' means—

"(A) with respect to a television broadcast station, the designated market area in which the station is located; and

"(B) with respect to a radio broadcast station, the local radio market in which the station is located.

"(4) Daily newspaper.—The term 'daily newspaper' means a print publication that is distributed to the general public in a local market on at least 4 days each week and that contains reporting on matters of general public interest, but does not include a publication whose content is primarily limited to advertising or to a single topic, trade, or industry.

"(5) Dominant online distribution platform.—The term 'dominant online distribution platform' means an online platform, as defined in section 568(a)(11) of the POPULIST Act, that—

"(A) distributes, curates, ranks, recommends, aggregates, or otherwise materially intermediates access by users to news, audio, or video content produced by unaffiliated persons; and

"(B)—

"(i) meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 568(a)(6) of the POPULIST Act; or