



Maryland | Delaware | DC Press Association

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To: Ways and Means Committee

From: Rebecca Snyder, Executive Director, MDDC Press Association

Date: February 27, 2020

Re: HB 932 – Support with Amendments

The Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association represents a diverse membership of news media organizations, from large, metro dailies like the Washington Post and the Baltimore Sun, to hometown newspapers such as The Frederick News Post and the Hagerstown Herald Mail to publications such as The Daily Record, the Oakland Republican, and online-only publications such as Maryland Matters and Bethesda Beat.

The Press Association objects to the portion of HB 932 that would impose sales tax on digitally delivered subscriptions of news media. Our members often blend print and online subscriptions, so accounting for the tax is murky. When a tax is imposed, subscriptions decline and our members are in a delicate balance to preserve newsroom capacity and their public service mission.

We ask that Lines 17 – 19 on Page 4 strike the words newspaper, magazine, periodical.

FACTS

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MATTER

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central to a strong and open society.**

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