

AN ACT concerning journalism.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Local Journalism Task Force Act.

Section 5. Establishment. The Local Journalism Task Force is established to:

(1) conduct a comprehensive, nonbinding study relative to communities underserved by local journalism in Illinois; and

(2) review all aspects of local journalism including, but not limited to, the adequacy of press coverage of communities, the ratio of residents to media outlets, the history of local news in Illinois, print and digital business models for media outlets, the impact of social media on local news, strategies to improve local news access, and public policy solutions to improve the sustainability of local press business models and private and nonprofit solutions.

Section 10. Membership. The Task Force shall consist of the following 13 members: one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of

Representatives; one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; one member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate; one member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; one member appointed by the Governor; one representative of the Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications at Northwestern University; one representative of the Public Affairs Reporting Program at the University of Illinois at Springfield; one representative of the School of Journalism at Southern Illinois University Carbondale; one representative of the Illinois Press Association; one representative of the Illinois Broadcasters Association; one representative of the Illinois Legislative Correspondents Association; one representative of the Illinois Public Broadcasting Council; one representative of the Illinois News Broadcasters Association; one representative of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and one representative of the Illinois Municipal League. Appointments shall be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Act.

Section 15. Meetings. The Task Force shall meet a minimum of 5 times to review, study, and analyze existing literature as well as quantitative and qualitative data on the status of journalism in the State of Illinois.

Section 20. Support. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall provide administrative and other support to the Task Force.

Section 25. Findings and recommendations. The Task Force shall submit its findings, along with its recommendations for legislation, to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than one year after the effective date of this Act.

Section 30. Repeal. This Act is repealed 2 years after the effective date of this Act.