

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

## Platform Committee

6/16/2017

### RESOLUTION 2017.16

#### A resolution of the Democratic Party of Lane County

*Relating to media consolidation in general and Sinclair media in particular*

WHEREAS, Media consolidation has been to the detriment of an informed citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair Broadcasting Group, a large media conglomerate, currently owns and controls news broadcasting for 30 Fox, 14 ABC, 20 CBS and 7 NBC affiliates as well as secondary and subnetwork TV stations (173 stations total) in over 140 cities in the United States, reaching 38% of households; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair also operates under “cooperative arrangements” to control other media to circumvent existing Federal Communications rules; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair controls 4 major radio stations including news and talk radio in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair owns American Sports Network, Charge!, Comet, TBD Cable channels, NewsChannel 8 (DC metro), Tennis Channel,/Tennis (magazine), Full Measure w/Sharyl Attkisson News Central and Circa News, and has previously acquired Act III Broadcasting, Allbritton Communications, Barrington Broadcasting, Four Points Media Group, Freedom Communications, Gannett Communications, Heritage Media, Newport Television, River City Broadcasting and Fisher Broadcasting (in Eugene ); and

WHEREAS, local television news is the primary source for news for 23 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair requires its affiliated stations to carry biased and opinionated propaganda masquerading as “news”; and

WHEREAS, Sinclair has recently filed to purchase additional local television stations owned by Tribune Media which would give it a bigger presence in large cities like New York City, New Orleans, Los Angeles and Washington, DC, 42 additional stations including 3 ABC stations, 6 CBS stations 14 Fox Stations and 2 NBC stations in a total additional 40 cities; and

WHEREAS, the FCC would have to alter or suspend existing media ownership rules to allow for

this purchase;

THEREFORE the Democratic Party of Lane County Resolves:

SECTION 1. To oppose this purchase by Sinclair Broadcasting.

SECTION 2. To oppose further proposed media consolidation that reduces the independent local news that is so vital to understanding local, national and international issues.

SECTION 3. To send copy of this resolution to all Democratic Representatives and Senators from Oregon, the Federal Communications Commission, and chairs of Oregon County Democratic parties.

**Resolved by the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Lane County,  
Assembled in Eugene, Oregon, June 16 2017**

Signed:

X \_\_\_\_\_.

Chris Wig

Chair

X \_\_\_\_\_.

Celine Swenson-Harris

Secretary