

Thank you for contacting me about the proposed merger between Nexstar Media Group (Nexstar) and Tribune Media Company (Tribune).

In December 2018, Nexstar announced a \$4.1 billion proposal to purchase Tribune's 42 television stations and cable network. If successful, this deal would make Nexstar the largest television station company in the nation.

This proposal comes just months after a failed merger between Sinclair Broadcast Group Inc. (Sinclair) and Tribune. Tribune terminated the merger agreement with Sinclair and filed a lawsuit against Sinclair for breach of contract.

I opposed the merger between Tribune and Sinclair on the grounds that it was not in the interest of the American people. Because of the feedback and interest from so many constituents, the merger between Tribune and Sinclair ultimately fell through.

With the proposed merger, concerns are again being raised that the deal would stifle competition and impede localism and diversity in broadcasting. Since mergers have the potential to create a monopoly and hurt competition at the expense of the consumer, these deals must be carefully evaluated to ensure that combining the two companies would not violate antitrust laws or harm consumers.

I will continue to support policies that promote localism, diversity, and competition in media and broadcasting.

Thank you again for contacting me. Please feel free to keep in touch.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator