

23 January 2024

Via E-Mail and U.S. Mail
Hon. Nathan Dahm
Oklahoma Senate
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Rm. 526
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
<Nathan.Dahm@oksenate.gov>

Re: SENATE BILL 1837

Dear Senator Dahm:

I am writing to you in order to provide some input on Senate Bill 1837. I believe that what you think you are trying to do here comes from a good place. I believe that you have good intentions. I understand why you proposed this bill. You're aiming at the "big bad corporate press" and yah, I hate them too. They lie. They know they are lying. They lie anyway. They're worse than *Pravda* under the Soviets.

Nevertheless, I must ask this important legal and philosophical question:

"Have you lost your motherfucking mind?"

I could be more vulgar. But, in the immortal words of Lieutenant Colonel Frank Slade, "I'm Just Getting Warmed Up." Scent of a Woman (Univ. Pictures 1992).

Let me give you a little bit of insight into where this is coming from. This is what you might call "friendly fire." I too despise "the corporate media." Fuck them.

When I say, "fuck them," I presume you hear the silent asterisk. The footnote to "fuck them" should always be "without splattering any stank ass effluvia on my beloved Constitution." If you do not hear that, let's work on that voice in your head – because you swore an oath to uphold and defend that Constitution. Senate Bill 1837, as introduced by you on January 17, 2024, is not just an affront to the Constitution, but it is an attempt raping Lady Liberty while shoving her face into Stalin's crotch. This will not stand.

Now get your head on straight and listen up to today's lesson on the First Amendment.

You want to license the press? Let's set aside the fact that you just can't, because of the First Amendment and shit.¹ Miami Herald Publishing Co. v. Tornillo, 418 U.S. 241, 258 (1974)

¹ I'm no Oklahoma lawyer, but Okla. Const., Art. 2, § 22 seems to also protect freedom of the press and freedom of speech. In fact, the Oklahoma Supreme Court holds that "[t]he Oklahoma Constitution's protection of free speech is far more broadly worded than the First Amendment's restriction on governmental interference with speech."

Gaylord Entertainment Co. v. Thompson, 1998 OK 30, P13, 958 P.2d 128 (Okla. 1998).



("it has yet to be demonstrated how government regulation of [the editorial] process can be exercised consistent with the First Amendment.") "The very purpose of the First Amendment is to foreclose public authority from assuming a guardianship of the public mind through regulating the press, speech and religion." *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 545 (1945) (Jackson, J. concurring).

What do you think would happen if you could license the press? Before you create a weapon, imagine it in the hands of your worst enemy. Let's imagine that the Central Finite Curve² tolerated a timeline where the judiciary lost its mind and upheld this stupid law. Don't you think that Massachusetts would pass a law that limited press licenses to media that was willing to promote that state's dipshit agenda? (Trust me, I'm from there, it would be a worse dystopia than you could ever hope to create).

Let's look at some specifics in your bill: You want to have quarterly drug testing for any "reporter, producer, writer, editor, or any other employee involved in the production of content distributed by a media outlet." SB 1837, § 1(e). Dude... for what? I'm going to go ahead and tell you right now that "any other employee involved..." (Id. § 1) language is a non-starter. If you get rid of the potheads from news production, you're going to have such a staffing shortage that you won't have any news at all. What are you, the fucking preacher in Footloose? Maybe for your next stunt, you could try and get rid of drug use in restaurant kitchens.

You want to mandate a "a propaganda-free safety training course of no less than eight (8) hours as prescribed by the State Department of Education, which shall be developed in coordination with PragerU." SB 1837, § 1(c). Look, I like Prager too, but holy durian farts, did you hit your head on something before you wrote that? Can you define "propaganda?" I know you can't. And what "safety" are these courses going to teach? How to try and drive in Oklahoma when legislature is in session, because there might be mentally-impaired fuckwads on the road? I can define "mentally-impaired fuckwads." That would be ANYONE WHO VOTES FOR THIS STUPID BILL. Did you even check with Dennis Prager before you shat on him by associating PragerU with this unconstitutional performative dumbassery?

If this stupid ass bill even gets out of committee, that committee should be renamed the "committee of dipshits." Withdraw this bill. And, the next time you fantasize about sexually assaulting Lady Liberty, keep your kinks to yourself.

Sincerely,

Marc J. Randazza

cc: your mom (no, not really)

² Rick and Morty, "Close Encounters of the Rick Kind", S.1 Ep. 10 (2014).