

September 18, 2025

Re: Support AB 325 (Aguiar-Curry) Cartwright Act: violations – SUPPORT and Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

Tech Oversight California, an advocacy organization that champions meaningful tech accountability reforms that address Big Tech's toxic business model and provide powerful online protections for Californians, wishes to express enthusiastic support for AB 325.

Adopted in 1907, the Cartwright Act was designed to safeguard California's consumers and businesses from monopolistic practices and unfair competition. Yet, while the statute has barely changed in over a century, the economy has been transformed by the digital age. Because the law does not reflect advancements such as artificial intelligence and algorithmic systems, it has left space for Big Tech to disguise and perpetuate anticompetitive conduct. Today, pricing algorithms make it possible for companies to secretly align prices through third-party platforms—artificially inflating costs and limiting competition, ultimately hurting Californians financially.

AB 325 updates and strengthens the Cartwright Act by addressing these modern tools and reinforcing enforcement through practical, commonsense standards. By making clear that algorithm-driven collusion is just as unlawful as traditional price fixing, this bill ensures that the original purpose of our antitrust protections is upheld.

Keeping our antitrust framework aligned with technological change is essential to stopping dominant players from exploiting their power. As California continues to shape the future of the digital economy, we must also safeguard fairness and consumer choice by ensuring open, competitive markets. For these reasons, we respectfully urge your signature on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Sacha Haworth

Executive Director, Tech Oversight California

Jacke Hally