



Written by [Paul Dragu](#) on October 14, 2025

Newsom Vetoes Digital Censorship Law

California Governor Gavin Newsom managed to get something right. He just vetoed a bill that would have allowed people to sue social-media companies on the subjective and dubious basis of “hate speech.”

Newsom vetoed SB 771 on Monday, the last day he had to act. The legislature sent him the bill on September 22. If Newsom wouldn't have rejected it, it would have become law anyway.

The governor called the bill “premature” in a short statement attempting to explain his decision. He [said](#):



AP Images
Gavin Newsom

“I likewise share the author's concern about the growth of discriminatory threats, violence, and coercive harassment online. I am concerned, however, that this bill is premature. Our first step should be to determine if, and to what extent, existing civil rights laws are sufficient to address violations perpetrated through algorithms.”

The Bill

The [bill](#) would have allowed people to sue social-media companies for up to \$1 million *per violation*. If the litigant was a minor, the fine could've doubled.

However, critics suspected the proposal's main goal was to coerce social-media companies into implementing censorious algorithms like the ones they did during the height of the Covid era. It was designed to pre-censor, to create an digital environment where certain views were forbidden.

The proposal included subjective and vague justifications for litigation. As we pointed out in a [previous report](#), it included the feeling of “intimidation” as grounds for suing. In the United Kingdom, officers have justified arresting people for over social-media posts that [caused others “anxiety.”](#) It's not hard to see that's what SB 771 could've opened up.

Opposition and Support

The bill had strong opposition, including from NetChoice, the tech trade group made up of Google, Meta, and Snap. Elon Musk's X and Parler also opposed it. Among the arguments they made was that SB 771 would have violated First Amendment protections.

Right-leaning pundits also bashed the proposal for its totalitarian potential. Tucker Carlson framed it as an attempt by California's ruling class to quash online criticism of the policies that have destroyed the most populous and beautiful state in the Union. The proposal designated a protected class that would have censored those who spoke out against illegal immigration, the deviancy of the LGBTQ mob, and critics of Islam or Israel.

On the other hand, George Soros' Center for Countering Digital Hate was sold on the bill, the



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propagandists in the mainstream media did their best to frame it as nothing more than digital companion to already existing civil-rights protection law, and more than a dozen Jewish organizations supported it as well, according to reports.

Newsom's Motivation

Newsom made a rare and good decision here. But it's unlikely his intentions were well-motivated. After all, [he did just sign a bill](#) to create a reparations-administration agency.

A common suspicion is that Newsom was hardly concerned about free speech and likely more worried about having to embark on future political campaigns without financial support from the tech gurus who've dumped millions into his previous campaigns, including executives from Google and Meta.

Whatever his motivation, the bottom line is that this is good news for Californians and anyone who believes that the digital world should be open to all ideas, not just those approved by the elites. As we pointed out in a [previous report](#) on this bill, social media, despite its many faults and foibles, has "democratized" the flow of information and loosened the elites' long-held grip on the narrative. This is a major reason there have been so many efforts to restrict online speech. If you want to see what the goal for the United States is, just look at various parts of Europe. The European Union is bullying member states to muzzle their citizens and creating laws to target American tech companies that provide the platforms to exchange ideas that threaten the international oligarch class.

People around the world are waking up and realizing that most everything those in charge are telling us is lies or deceptions. More people realize a network of globalists is working to submerge all nations under a world government. Expect more attempts like SB 771 here in the United States and in Europe. The battle over the free flow of ideas is far from over.



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