

\*Some comments condensed due to length.

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in an area that

companies that now own most of the local TV stations in the U.S. use a take-it-orleave-it approach with the noncompete issue — even in employment situations that pay less than \$40,000/year, a common salary in local TV. I've heard from colleagues that media companies have threatened to enforce noncompetes not just inside a TV market, but in other markets where the company owns a station

	net revenue over 10-fold the leader decided to turn it over to his best friend who was also working for the company. They eliminated my positionbut when I tried to and did acquire a jobback in the industry they immediately filed a lawsuit and have used the courts and their deep pockets to keep me fromcompeting against them. After spending over \$100 thousand of my own money and limited earnings I've had togive into their demands+
Jeff	%Non-competes are modern day legalized slavery. The employer controls all aspects of an employee's life with them: Where they can live, work, and provide a living for their familiesI have personally been hauled into court after leaving an abusive company to enforce a non-compete. The prior non-compete limited me in such a way I could not continue my career. Far too long employers have been able to act as slave masters with lawyers as their overseers cracking their whips of litigation. Non-competes hurt, are punitive, and abusive to individual careers, families, and the economy. As long as non competes exist we cannot call ourselves a free market capitalist economy.+
Sharad	% read the FTC Chair's op-ed in the New York Times today and writing this in support of the strong arguments she puts forward for eliminating the non-compete clause in employment.+
Tim	% support the FTC's ban on non-compete clauses. These clauses hold workers' wages down, stifle innovation, and harm working people. This policy will make it easier for workers to earn what they're worth! PLEASE ban non-compete clauses ASAP!!+
Kelsey	% support this clause. I was partnered with my family for my entire working career (starting before I was 16yrs old) until 8/31/2022. I worked over 20yrs with my family thinking that I would continue until I retired. These plans changed due to a spine injury I experienced from over lifting The field that this occurred in was document destruction. There was constant lifting and I ended up injuring myself with a permanent lifelong injury. I approached my family to explain that I could not physically do this job any longer. They did not receive this message wellIt was a year long legal battle over petty stuff that we ended up agreeing on. After the final offer was accepted by me, my partners threw in the non-competeDuring the process of the exit and legal battle I ended up contacting a competitor that my family has known since he started his company and it's been a decent relationship with fair competition through the yearsIf I did not have the non-compete I could've found a job that I was familiar with in the same industry. Although, I basically had to start over at the age of 38 with four kids and my working wife relying on me for income. I found it difficult to find another job in a new profession without college degrees. It took me over three months of constant looking and interviewing to land a job. The pay is almost 130,000 less then what I was getting beforeif I didn't have the non-compete I wouldwe been able to find a job in the same field that I left and would've been an equal salary from my last profession.+
Andrea	I am a <b>Home Instead franchisee</b> owning 1 franchise and employing approximately 65 individuals in the community. I am writing to discuss how the

noncompete agreement that I was required to sign in connection with the signing of my franchise agreement negatively affects my business and me. In August

Constituent Support for the FTC \$ Noncompete Rule