No. 21-51178

In the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

NETCHOICE, L.L.C., A 501(C)(6) DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ORGANIZATION DOING BUSINESS AS NETCHOICE; AND COMPUTER & COMMUNICATIONS IN-DUSTRY ASSOCIATION, A 501(C)(6) NON-STOCK VIRGINIA CORPORATION DOING BUSINESS AS CCIA,

Plaintiffs-Appellees,

v.

KEN PAXTON, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS, Defendant-Appellant.

> On Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Austin Division Civil Action No. 1:21-cv-00840-RP

APPELLEES' UNOPPOSED MOTION TO FILE AN OVERLENGTH RESPONSE TO APPELLANT'S OVERLENGTH MOTION

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CERTIFICATE OF INTERESTED PERSONS

No. 21-51178

NetChoice, L.L.C., a 501(c)(6) District of Columbia organization doing business as NetChoice; and Computer & Communications Industry Association, a 501(c)(6) non-stock Virginia Corporation doing business as CCIA, *Plaintiffs-Appellees*,

v.

Ken Paxton, in his official capacity as Attorney General of Texas, *Defendant-Appellant*.

The undersigned counsel of record certifies that the following listed per-

sons and entities as described in the fourth sentence of Rule 28.2.1 have an

interest in the outcome of this case. Plaintiffs-Appellees CCIA and

NetChoice have no parent corporations and no publicly held corporation

owns 10% or more of their respective stock. These representations are made

in order that the judges of this Court may evaluate possible disqualification

or recusal.

Plaintiffs-Appellees:

NetChoice, L.L.C., a 501(c)(6) District of Columbia organization doing business as NetChoice; and Computer & Communications Industry Association, a 501(c)(6) non-stock Virginia Corporation doing business as CCIA

Counsel for Plaintiffs-Appellees:

Scott A. Keller (lead counsel) Steven P. Lehotsky Matthew H. Frederick Todd Disher Jonathan Urick Gabriela Gonzalez-Araiza Jeremy Evan Maltz LEHOTSKY KELLER LLP

Defendant-Appellant:

Ken Paxton, in his official capacity as Attorney General of Texas

Counsel for Defendant-Appellant:

Judd Edward Stone II Ryan Baasch Benjamin S. Lyles Benjamin S. Walton Christopher D. Hilton Courtney Brooke Corbello OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Amici in Support of Plaintiffs-Appellees:

Chamber of Progress; Connected Commerce Council; CTA; Engine Advocacy; Information Technology & Innovation Foundation; National Black Justice Coalition; Progressive Policy Institute; TechNet; Washington Center for Technology Policy; Hispanic Technology and Telecommunications Partnership

Counsel for Chamber of Progress, et al.:

William Reid Wittliff WITTLIFF CUTTER P.L.L.C.

Amici in Support of Plaintiffs-Appellees:

The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press; The American Civil Liberties Union; The Center for Democracy and Technology; and American Civil Liberties Union of Texas

Counsel for The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, et al.: Catherine Lewis Robb Laura Lee Prather HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP

Amicus in Support of Plaintiffs-Appellees:

TechFreedom

Counsel for TechFreedom:

Corbin K. Barthold TECHFREEDOM

Amicus in Support of Plaintiffs-Appellees:

Electronic Frontier Foundation

Counsel for Electronic Frontier Foundation:

David Greene Mukund Rathi Electronic Frontier Foundation

Thomas S. Leatherbury VINSON & ELKINS LLP

Amici in Support of Defendant-Appellant:

Texas Public Policy Foundation, The Babylon Bee; Not the Bee; Giganews, Inc.; and Golden Frog, Inc.

Counsel for Texas Public Policy Foundation, et al.: W. Scott McCollough McCollough Law Firm, P.C.

Evan Miles Goldberg Evan Miles Goldberg, PLLC

Robert Henneke Texas Public Policy Foundation

> <u>/s/ Scott A. Keller</u> SCOTT A. KELLER Counsel of Record for Plaintiffs-Appellees

UNOPPOSED MOTION TO FILE OVERLENGTH RESPONSE TO APPELLANT'S OVERLENGTH MOTION

Plaintiffs-Appellees respectfully request an extension of the word limit—from 5,200 words to 7,000 words—for their response to Defendant-Appellant's 7,000-word motion to stay the preliminary injunction pending appeal.

This case concerns Texas House Bill 20 ("HB20")—a content-, viewpoint-, and speaker-based law that violates the First Amendment by eviscerating editorial discretion, compelling and chilling speech, and imposing onerous disclosures on a select few disfavored Internet social-media platforms. The district court correctly preliminarily enjoined Defendant from enforcing HB20, and Defendant has moved to stay that injunction pending appeal. This Court granted Defendant an extension of his word limit on that motion, from 5,200 words to 7,000 words.

To adequately respond to Defendant's 7,000-word motion, Plaintiffs respectfully request a corresponding extension of their word limit. HB20 plainly violates centuries of constitutional principles and decades of the Supreme Court's precedents. But Defendant has used his overlength 7,000word motion to raise myriad arguments—including some that Defendant barely raised below—trying to evade those principles and precedents.¹ An

¹ In his motion to extend, Defendant noted the voluminous briefing in the district court. That briefing included two claims that the district court did

extension will permit Plaintiffs to both explain HB20's plain flaws and respond to Defendant's arguments.

Counsel for Plaintiffs conferred with Defendant's counsel on December 22, 2021. Defendant does not oppose the relief requested in this motion.

CONCLUSION

Plaintiffs respectfully request this Court extend Plaintiffs' word limit to respond to Defendant's motion to stay preliminary injunction pending appeal to 7,000 words.

DATED: December 23, 2021

Steven P. Lehotsky Jonathan D. Urick Jeremy Evan Maltz Gabriela Gonzalez-Araiza LEHOTSKY KELLER LLP 200 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

Respectfully submitted, <u>/s/ Scott A. Keller</u> Scott A. Keller Matthew H. Frederick Todd Disher LEHOTSKY KELLER LLP 919 Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78701 scott@lehotskykeller.com T: (512) 693-8350 F: (833) 233-2202 Counsel for Plaintiffs-Appellees

not evaluate in its preliminary-injunction motion: HB20's violation of the Commerce Clause and HB20's preemption under 47 U.S.C. §230.

CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE

On December 22, 2021, counsel for Plaintiffs-Appellees conferred by email with counsel for Defendant-Appellant, who stated that Defendant-Appellant does not oppose the relief requested in this motion.

> <u>/s/ Scott A. Keller</u> Scott A. Keller

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On December 23, 2021, this brief was served via CM/ECF on all registered counsel and transmitted to the Clerk of the Court. Counsel further certifies that: (1) any required privacy redactions have been made in compliance with Fifth Circuit Rule 25.2.13; and (2) the document has been scanned with the most recent version of a commercial virus scanning program and is free of viruses. No paper copies were filed in accordance with the COVID-19 changes ordered in General Docket No. 2020-3.

> <u>/s/ Scott A. Keller</u> Scott A. Keller

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

This brief complies with: (1) the type-volume limitation of Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 27(d)(2)(A) because it contains 278 words, excluding the parts of the brief exempted by Rule 27(a)(2)(B); and (2) the typeface and type style requirements of Rule 27(d)(1)(E) because it has been prepared in a proportionally spaced typeface (14-point Palatino Linotype) using Microsoft Word (the same program used to calculate the word count).

> <u>/s/ Scott A. Keller</u> Scott A. Keller