



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Regina Cobb (R-5)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ahead of Key Vote, Representative Cobb Urges Senate Support for Bill to Protect Arizona Consumers & Businesses from Big Tech Monopolies, Devastating Fees

HB 2005 would empower small developers and growing businesses, incentivize companies to relocate to Arizona

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – State Representative Regina Cobb called on members of the Arizona Senate to support her legislation, [HB 2005](#), that would protect consumers and small businesses from Big Tech’s monopolistic fees – better known as the “app tax.” The bill passed the House earlier this month and is scheduled for a Senate hearing this Wednesday.

“Allowing Big Tech companies to use their monopoly power to effectively tax our small businesses is not only wrong, it is raising prices for consumers and harming small app developers – the very innovators and entrepreneurs who power our economy,” said Representative Cobb. **“This legislation will give small app developers more power and reign in the Big Tech monopolies in Silicon Valley who are using their ‘app tax’ to make money off the backs of our innovators.”**

Apple and Google’s effective monopoly allows them to force app developers to use their respective payment systems, where they impose a 30 percent “app tax” on purchases made through the App Store and Google Play store. This not only harms small app developers through increased costs but results in higher prices and reduced choice for consumers who have no way to avoid these anticompetitive fees. HB 2005 would free small app developers from the “app tax” by allowing them to accept payments without being forced to go through Apple and Google.

This legislation would level the playing field for app developers by giving them, and their customers, more choice – lowering costs for developers, lowering prices for consumers, and incentivizing growing tech companies and entrepreneurs to relocate to Arizona. Following the passage of HB 2005 in the House of Representatives, David Heinemeier Hansson, a co-founder of software maker, Basecamp, said the company [would move its operations](#) from Chicago to a state like Arizona that offers protections from Big Tech.

“This is about supporting innovators, giving consumers more choice, and standing up to monopolies that threaten our free market system and are harming growing businesses,” added Cobb. **“This is a bipartisan issue, it is an American issue, it is a fairness issue – it is time to tell Big Tech enough is enough.”**

Since Representative Cobb's legislation was introduced and approved in the House, voices from across the political spectrum have spoken out about the need to reign in Big Tech, with some highlighting HB 2005 for acting where Congress has not. See below for a small sampling of coverage in Arizona and across the country:

- **Protocol:** [Apple and Google lobbyists are swarming Arizona over a bill that would reform the app store](#)
- **WSJ:** [Why the Next Big-Tech Fights Are in State Capitals](#)
- **Arizona Capitol Times:** [OP-ED: It's time to free ourselves from 'Big Tech' monopoly](#)
- **Capitol Media Services:** [Arizona lawmakers step into battle between app developers, tech giants](#)
- **KJZZ:** [Bill Would Allow Arizona-Based Developers To Skip Apple Store, Google Play](#)
- **NY Times:** [States Are Right to Rebel Against Big Tech](#)
- **Politico:** [Apple, Google app store fights move to the states](#)

Regina Cobb is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 5, which includes La Paz and Mohave Counties.

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