



A message to Iowans from former Governor Bob Ray

"In my years as Iowa's Governor, I saw first-hand how a free press benefits all Iowans.

Because we have a free press, Iowans have the opportunity to learn what's going on in their state and their communities.

A free press means Iowans cannot be shut out of the political process. They can see how proposed laws will affect their lives *before* the laws are passed. This means they have the opportunity to talk to their elected officials before final decisions are made.

Issues like the fate of our schools, our safety and how we will pay for government services can best be resolved when Iowans understand what's at stake.

A free press insures that Iowans can make informed decisions in their lives and at the polls. But the right to free expression and a free press can never be taken for granted.

I join the Iowa Freedom of Information Council in celebrating this precious freedom. I hope you will take a few minutes to consider how our quality of life would suffer should this fundamental right ever vanish. It's up to you and me to make sure this right is preserved."

Celebrate free press.

For more information on the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, go online at drake.edu/journalism/foi/foi2.html



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