

Fake News Site Courier Spends Millions to Boost Vulnerable House Democrats | National Review

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A for-profit media company funded by major Democratic donors Reid Hoffman and Laurene Powell Jobs has created hundreds of millions of impressions on voters in key House races through Facebook ads disguised as local news articles, according to a review of financial records.

According to Facebook's ad library, Courier Newsroom — the subject of an FEC complaint filed in September — has spent over \$2.1 million on ads since its founding last August. The amount is more than double what the National Republican Congressional Committee has spent on Facebook ads over the last two years, and even outweighs what the official Super PAC of House Republicans, the Congressional Leadership Fund, has spent on Facebook ads since May 2018.

A National Review analysis of Courier's outlays shows that at least 74 percent of the group's spending has been allocated to boosting vulnerable Democrats competing in 14 competitive House races. As of early September, Courier has paid for 485 ads masquerading as "articles" in these specific races, resulting in a range of at least 149.6 million to 170.5 million impressions on Facebook.

[...]

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