



## Florida Watch to demonstrate against sale of Sentinel to Koch bros.

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Florida Watch Action, the progressive group that brought you "Pink Slip Rick" and other efforts opposing Gov. Rick Scott in particular and right-wing conservatives in general, is organizing a demonstration tomorrow afternoon in front of the Orlando Sentinel.

The intent is to protest the possible sale of Tribune Newspapers -- which includes the Orlando Sentinel, South Florida Sun-Sentinel, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times and four other papers -- to the billionaire Koch Brothers. Charles and David Koch, backers of conservative groups ranging from the Cato Institute, Americans for Prosperity and a host of tea party groups, are widely reported to be interested in purchasing Tribune when it goes up for sale later this year. The company's majority owners are hedge funds and banks that assumed control when Tribune emerged out of bankruptcy late last year.

"If bought by the Koch brothers, the Orlando Sentinel would become a powerful arm of their Kochtapus tentacles, along with the think tanks and political groups that they fund," says the Florida Watch email announcing the 5:30 p.m. rally.

"We need to call on the investors selling the Tribune papers, including the Orlando Sentinel, to say NO to selling our daily newspaper to radical right-wingers like the Koch Brothers. Don't let the Kochtapus tentacles choke out our access to truth."

Earlier this month, the Chicago Tribune reported that Common Cause, Daily Kos, Free Press and Courage Campaign are among several groups protesting the sale to the politically-active business family, calling them "radical right wing ideologues."