



Facebook Live - Streaming

In December 2018, a request for information was posted to the electronic discussion group of the Legislative Information and Communication Staff about the use of Facebook Live as a live streaming platform. The specific question was:

Could you please respond if your caucus or chamber currently uses (or has ever used) Facebook Live for live streaming?

Shown below is a summary of the responses.

Alabama – *House*

I can't speak for the caucuses but we've never used it for live streaming in the House chamber.

Alaska – *Senate and House*

Alaska does not use Facebook live. We broadcast using Wowza Streaming Engine for distribution, which we manage internally on our own server (not the subscription, hosted version of their software).

Arkansas – *House*

The Arkansas House has not streamed live on Facebook, but we are interested in seeing the responses to this and exploring it for the future.

Colorado – *House*

Members of the House Democratic caucus use it.

Delaware – *Senate*

We do here in the Delaware Senate Democratic Caucus! Generally speaking, we go live from individual Senator pages for press events, floor speeches, special events or meetings, etc.

Georgia – *Senate*

We do not use Facebook live for live streaming. Some of the members have done it in the past on their own but our office uses the Livestream platform.

Illinois – *Senate*

The Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus has used Facebook Live in the past. Here are a couple of examples –

- <https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisSenateDemocraticCaucus/videos/10156388929832103/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisSenateDemocraticCaucus/videos/10156384371247103/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisSenateDemocraticCaucus/videos/10156372694082103/>

Indiana – *House*

The Indiana House Democratic Caucus uses Facebook Live to stream all of our press conferences.

Iowa – *Senate*

The Iowa Senate Democratic Research staff occasionally uses an Epiphan Video Webcaster and a video camera to livestream meetings to our Facebook account. The meetings are usually committee meetings or subcommittee meetings with strong public interest.

Sessions of the Iowa Legislature are livestreamed by the Iowa Legislative Service Agency – on the legislative site, not on Facebook.

Kentucky – *Senate and House*

We used it once to announce a special award from the non-partisan agency.

I believe some members have streamed live coverage of meetings, but I don't think any have come from the official caucus page.

Ohio – *Senate*

I can only think of one time an Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus member used Facebook Live in the last year. It was while the Senator was hosting a press conference in his district, which is two hours from Columbus.

Otherwise, we do not typically live stream on Facebook because we have the capacity to live stream/archive through our bipartisan government telecom service, the Ohio Channel. That way our press conferences are produced in much higher quality with better sound and chyrons for names/titles. We typically include in an advisory if we're planning to live stream and frequently send links to the full press conference with follow up press releases. That could certainly translate to folks who are using Facebook Live to achieve the same goals.

Washington – *Senate*

We here in the Washington State Senate Democratic Caucus have used it for about the past year.

Washington – *House*

Washington House Democrats have used it some in the past few years, yes.

West Virginia – *Senate and House*

Last year, while we were inundated by striking teachers, we had issues with bandwidth so we briefly broadcast to Facebook Live for the streaming of both Chambers but have switched to Youtube instead.

Wisconsin – *Assembly*

Assembly Republicans use Facebook Live for press conferences and several of our members use it on their personal pages.