

Prairie Public provides **free education services** to schools and families in North Dakota. It, produces one-of-a-kind documentaries on the **history and culture of North Dakota** and the Prairie region. And Prairie Public offers **in-depth news coverage** that informs urban, rural, agricultural and industrial communities. These features make Prairie Public a vital resource to the State of North Dakota, one that is **free and easily and generally accessible by radio and TV** stations, to citizens, including those who may still have challenges getting information on modern online tools.

As the **backbone of the Emergency Alert System**, Prairie Public also keeps North Dakota citizens safe and informed during emergencies such as floods and blizzards. As an important **resource to educators**, Prairie Public brings hands-on learning materials to schools, libraries, and the many homeschool groups across the State. This directly helps children preparing to enter the school system. The PBS KIDS resource has carefully collected and tested learning materials to help North Dakota children learn toward successes in school. In producing documentaries and stories from news of the world and North Dakota communities, its places, people and events that shape the State, Prairie Public opens doors to understanding past, present and future.

In brief, **Prairie Public strengthens the State of North Dakota** itself, proving fact-based information that informs and educates its citizens of all ages and locations, in their participation in learning, education, and life in the democracy of North Dakota.

As a member of the Board of Prairie Public Broadcasting, I urge North Dakota legislators to continue supporting Prairie Public. I ask that you vote to **OPPOSE HB 1255**.