Testimony Before the House Political Subdivisions Committee HB 1255 Thursday, January 30, 2025

Chair Longmuir and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Nick Archuleta, and I am the president of North Dakota United. Additionally, I am proud to serve as a member of the Prairie Public Broadcasting board of directors. I appear before you today in opposition to HB 1255 and to urge a *do not pass* recommendation from the House Political Subdivisions Committee.

Mr. Chair, for 60 years, Prairie Public has served communities across North Dakota as a cost-free, over the air source of high-quality programming. We are enormously proud of Prairie Public's history of providing the educational programming that helps to prepare kids for school. This programming for preschoolers is very well researched and provides children with content that drives their curiosity and makes learning fun. Additionally, Prairie Public further serves the education community by providing free educational tools for educators. The PPB Learning Express mobile trailer brings direct learning to schools, homeschools, and libraries in communities across North Dakota.

Chair Longmuir, PPB does not limit its excellent programming to children's interests. PPB creates incredibly compelling documentaries that tell the stories of the people that shaped our state and those that continue to make North Dakota a vibrant place to earn our livings, share our cultures, and raise our children. In addition, PPB provides unbiased news to the citizens of North Dakota that helps them make informed decisions.

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, North Dakota is well served by PPB, and we are very appreciative of the investments that legislative assemblies have historically made to our organization.

It is my hope that your support continues.

With that, Mr. Chair, I will conclude my testimony and urge a do not pass recommendation for HB 1255.