

Rose Nichols
606 Collins Court
Mandan ND 58554

February 26, 2025

North Dakota Senate

Re: Oppose HB 1255

I am writing to ask you to oppose HB 1255, which would cease state funding for Prairie Public. I believe that Prairie Public plays a very important role in North Dakota. We can listen to objective news, weather, and entertainment on the radio and we can access a myriad of shows on the television.

All of the services and entertainment provided are at no cost to the listener. This is so important for our elders that cannot afford to pay for subscriptions to news, weather, or cable television. It's also very valuable for the children in our communities to be able to access Prairie Public's free educational entertainment; our kids would have no other way to watch these programs.

I am a member of Prairie Public and I primarily listen to their radio programming. It is unique and the only place I can find local news and local entertainment while I am driving.

Many people in the state cannot afford to pay membership fees. And I cannot afford to pay higher rates to be a member. If Prairie Public loses state funding, they will need to increase membership fees in order to continue their programs. This would be a huge loss to all of the people that enjoy the programming, and rely on Prairie Public for their news.

Please support this citizen-focused network, and ensure that everyone in our community can access their variety of programs at no cost.

Thank you for your consideration,

/s/ Rose Nichols