

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today in opposition of HB 1255. Prairie Public provides valuable educational, cultural, and news programming to the citizens of North Dakota that cannot be found anywhere else.

Prairie Public provides free educational services to all North Dakotans, especially children, with hands-on learning through the Prairie Public Learning Express and access to PBS Kids which encourages learning and sets our kids up for success in school and their lives.

It also serves as a vital resource for information, news, and alerts to North Dakota residents living in rural areas, who may have limited access to services.

Prairie Public preserves and shares the history and culture of our state in a way that no one else can. When I moved to North Dakota several years ago, I used Prairie Public's free programming on historical and cultural events, including the Prairie Mosaic and Dakota Datebook series to learn about my new home. In addition to these programs, I use Prairie Public daily as a source for local, fact based news.

The citizens of North Dakota deserve free and accessible news and information- a service Prairie Public provides.

I urge you to oppose HB 1255.

Respectfully,

Ashley Thronson