

Gregory Vandeberg
801 Boyd Dr.
Grand Forks, ND 58203

Senate of the State of North Dakota

February 26, 2025

Subject: Opposition to HB 1255 to Eliminate State Funding to Prairie Public

Dear Senators,

I urge you to vote no on HB 1255 to eliminate funding to Prairie Public. When I first moved to North Dakota more than 20 years ago, one of the things I could count on while traveling around the state was reliable news and weather from Prairie Public, in every corner of the state. Prairie Public performs a vital service that is oftentimes unable in other forms, as small town newspapers go by the way, and most commercial radio stations have a national format and little or no local news. Regardless of what the naysayers are proclaiming about the politics of Prairie Public, I have found the station and its affiliates including National Public Radio to present the facts, and let the listener decide.

Those who may watch or listen to FOX News, MSNBC, CNN and BEK TV are inundated with opinions, and little actual news or facts. Prairie Public digs into local news and stories about our great state and region. They also contribute to presenting the arts, from local musicians to poets, and information about our history. I am a proud supporter of Prairie Public, and I believe that they provide a public service to a state that needs and requires it. I am also an educator and use Prairie Public articles and links to stories for my teaching. Please vote no on HB 1255.

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Vandeberg