

Dear Chair Roers and the Members of the State and Local Government Committee, I am writing to urge a "Do Not Pass" on HB 1255.

I write to affirm my support in the usage of public funds, both state and federal, to support public broadcasting. I am a resident of North Dakota and public broadcasting like that of Prairie Public and PBS were hugely influential to my upbringing. As a child, who grew up poor, we didn't have cable at home, but despite this I was still afforded entertainment and educational programming through PBS Kids and benefited from Prairie Public's educational and informational community events.

It saddens me to think that the children of North Dakota could possibly lose the benefits that local, public broadcasting provided me as a child due to lack of funding. Public broadcasting not only provides entertainment, but also helps record and remember the local histories of our state. The history of North Dakota is important to me and I hope that as representatives you share that feeling and recognize the importance that public broadcasting plays in preserving our history.

As a lifelong resident of North Dakota, I urge the State and Local Government Committee to vote "DO NOT PASS" on HB 1255. Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state,

Jayce Branden