

March 2, 2025

To: Members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee

Re: HB1255

Dear Chair Roers and Committee Members:

Consider the multiple benefits of Prairie Public Broadcasting's service to all the citizens of North Dakota and OPPOSE HB1255.

I am a former chair of the Board of Directors for Prairie Public. I invested my time, heart, and financial contributions to Prairie Public because of the benefits that I experienced over the majority of a lifetime as a citizen of the state; I believed it important to help ensure the continuation of these resources. All sources of funding, public and private, are important and necessary to support Prairie Public's delivery of information, education, and beautiful and inspiring works of audio and visual art. I encourage you to continue, not limit, benefits to youth, adults, and senior citizens of the state:

- education to all children, regardless of where they live to help them grow up to be curious, engaged and contributing citizens;
- news services about events and actions that affect all citizens in all corners of the state;
- the opportunity to experience music and other forms of art that they might not be able to experience in their hometowns or farmsteads.

The minimal investment per person for the lifelong benefits of these services is well worth it. Vote NO on HB 1255.

Karen Ehrens, Past Chair  
Prairie Public Board of Directors  
Washington, DC 2007