

I strongly oppose HB 1255! Public Broadcasting in North Dakota has reliable and enriching local and national and worldwide programming. It must continue, as it has programming no other station has. From the arts to news to human interest stories, PPB is invaluable. The loss of this station would be devastating to those who live and work in this state. It is the station that provides little advertising so as listeners we can hear complete programs, musical works, interviews all throughout the state. My family and I rely on PPB every day and many I know have it as their primary news station. PPB must continue in North Dakota. I oppose HB 1255.

PBS Kids is the station that our children can watch, and many children have grown up with. It is a station that educates, through its content, kids all over the state. Children who live in the rural parts of North Dakota have access to programs that expand their world. When families are unable to easily access zoos, nature parks, and connections to wonderful adults, they lose. My children grew up with Mr. Rogers and his influence still shows up in their lives. I grew up with Captain Kangaroo and learned from his kindness and respectful interactions with others on the show. We learn how to problem solve and deal with disappointments...PBS is a station like no other where the content can be trusted to teach us and our kids how to be good citizens.

As we have become more isolated in our social interactions, particularly following our confinement during Covid, PPB has offered a window to the world that we could trust to be thoughtful and supportive. It was a place that children desperately needed to connect with other kids and trustworthy adults when they had to stay home.

I can't say it any stronger...I OPPOSE HB 1255 and I ask you to oppose it, too!