

HB 1255
Testimony of Mary Massad
Senate State and Local Government Committee

Chairman Roers and members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1255. My name is Mary Massad, and I am a supporter and viewer and listener of Prairie Public Television and Radio. I strongly urge a no vote on HB 1255.

Prairie Public has been a vital resource for my family and many others in North Dakota for decades. As a free and over-the-air service, it has been essential for my family providing access to news, entertainment, and information.

I thoroughly enjoy their programming for documentaries, dramatic movies, series and other entertainment. *Great Performances*, *Doc Martin*, *All Creatures Great and Small* and *Philadelphia Eleven* are a few of the dramas and documentaries my family enjoys. The Thomas Jefferson Hour by our local Clay Jenkinson has always been a family favorite. The music and news variety on radio is outstanding.

It is my go-to source for local, state, national and international news. It provides news and information unavailable from any other source. North Dakota Legislative Review is great to watch or listen to each week during our legislative session.

Prairie Public has also played a crucial role in my children's education. They grew up watching Prairie Public Television. This programming helped them become talented students and, ultimately, better adults.

Prairie Public is not just a broadcasting service; it is a cornerstone of our community, enriching our lives with quality programming, reliable news, and educational content. For over 60 years, it has been a trusted companion to families like mine, offering a unique blend of entertainment and information that is unmatched by any other source. The impact of Prairie Public on my children's education and our family's daily life is immeasurable.

State funding is crucial to ensure that Prairie Public continues to serve the people of North Dakota with the same dedication and excellence. I urge you to consider the invaluable role that Prairie Public plays in our state and to give HB 1255 a do not pass recommendation.

Please vote no on HB 1255 to support the continued success and availability of this vital resource.

Thank you for your time and consideration.