

Dear Republican Super Majority.

Please concentrate your efforts on more appropriate issues. Take care of ND's poor and underprivileged. Make sound business decisions.

Resist the urge to silence media or free speech that may occasionally have an opinion counter to your own. I am sure you can find an example where you feel Public Radio has a different political philosophy than your own. But rather than let your ideas be measured freely against such competing thought you seek to silence it. It is a truly despotic and cowardly regime that seeks to silence any hint of opposing thought.

ND Public radio and Television have expanded my horizons since I was a child in rural ND. We had only 2 major TV broadcasts before the addition of Prairie Public Television. My younger brother and Sister benefitted from my parents reading to us nightly. They also improved their beginning skills by watching Sesame Street and Mr Rogers. I didn't have much access to the beauty of Classical music before tuning in to NDPR. How wonderful to have that option opened to me.

In the 50 years since, Due to Public Broadcasting, I have seen plenty of programs and heard a generous amount of broadcasts touting our vibrant North Dakota communities and beautiful natural expanses.

That you would silence all of it because of your fear and hatred of a possible dissenting opinion or of an embarrassing truth that would dare be reported is pathetic.

"Democracy dies in darkness"

Please demonstrate that darkness hasn't completely overtaken the North Dakota Legislature. Leave the funding for Prairie Public as it is. More people enjoy its educational programming and unbiased reporting than the few that fear its ridiculously perceived threat to their power.

Best Regards,

Rod Shafer