



March 23, 2025

The Honorable Marjorie Taylor Greene
Chairwoman, House Subcommittee on Delivering On Government Efficiency
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Melanie Stansbury
Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on Delivering On Government Efficiency
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Congressional Bipartisan Support for Public Broadcasting

Dear Chairwoman Greene, Ranking Member Stansbury, and Members of the Subcommittee:

I am general manager of KANW-FM based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. KANW is a non-profit, non-commercial, public radio station owned and operated by Albuquerque Public Schools. KANW was the first FM station in the State of New Mexico. KANW began operating in 1949 from a small studio in Albuquerque's then only public high school. The station initially provided classroom instructional programming only during school hours and was otherwise off the air, including during summer recess.

New Mexico is the 5th largest state in the Union in terms of land mass and many towns and Native American populations in the state are remotely located and isolated without adequate radio broadcast signals caused by long distances and terrain shielding due to the mountainous geography. Notwithstanding, with critical support of National Public Radio, Inc. (NPR) and grants from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and from generous contributions of the public, including 22 volunteer staff, KANW today serves most of the State of New Mexico via KANW-FM 89.1, two digital stations, five repeater stations, and four translator stations (see [SERVICE AREA MAPS](#)). This growth has occurred with the full support of numerous Democratic and Republican state governor administrations over the stations' 75-year history.

The programming of KANW is built around a highly successful focus on New Mexico Spanish music, and is consistently at or near the top of ratings in New Mexico. KANW is proud to provide a venue and platform to New Mexico artists who would otherwise never receive airplay or recognition in large broadcast markets. The sound of New Mexico Spanish music is unique to the Land of Enchantment.

NPR support is critical to the success of services KANW provides. Much of KANW's growth described above and its ability to provide programming and services to the multiculturally rich, diverse and significantly remote populations of New Mexico (over 10% of New Mexico's population is Native American and nearly 48% is Hispanic), has been enabled by KANW's affiliation with NPR. NPR support includes, among other things, assistance in developing and maintaining an interconnected terrestrial, satellite, and digital distribution system; providing an enterprise content management system that enables real-time sharing of content among stations and NPR; serving as the backbone of the nation's emergency alert system and supporting stations' public safety work; and enhancing editorial capacity through shared services and elevating local news stories. In addition, KANW materially benefits from CPB funding through annual Community Service Grants that support acquisition or production of

programming, music licensing fees, support for the public radio interconnection system, and other system support.

I respectfully urge Congress to preserve their longstanding bipartisan support for public radio, and would be happy to address any questions you may have or provide additional information.

Very sincerely,

Michael Brasher

Michael Brasher
KANW General Manager