



March 24, 2025

To: The Honorable Marjorie Taylor Greene

Chairwoman, House

Subcommittee on Delivering

On Government Efficiency

Washington, D.C. 20315

The Honorable Melanie Stansbury

Ranking Member, House

Subcommittee on Delivering

On Government Efficiency

Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Greene and Ranking Member Stansbury,

For more than 76 years, the broadcast signals of WABE have touched the lives of listeners and viewers in the Atlanta metro region. WABE is a community-run, independently owned, FCC-licensed nonprofit public media station serving more than 1 million people across 34 counties in Metro Atlanta and North Georgia each month. As Atlanta's NPR and PBS affiliate, WABE provides community connection, educational information, cultural programming, and public safety services to our community.

With a staff of nearly 90 professionals, including over 20 local journalists, WABE brings national content to the airwaves and produces local content that informs, connects and inspires Atlantans.

WABE qualifies for annual grants from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) to support operations. These federal funds allow us to provide:

Service During Community Emergencies: WABE is a key component of Georgia's emergency alert system, broadcasting life-saving updates during hurricanes, severe weather events, and public health crises.

Serving Communities Education: WABE offers a range of educational programming from PBS, BBC, NPR and local educational programming, including *Health Wanted*, *City Lights*, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra performances, *Sounds Like ATL*, and *Jazz Classics with H. Johnson*, enriching Atlanta's cultural landscape.

For every \$1 in CPB funding, public radio stations raise approximately \$7 locally, demonstrating a strong public-private partnership that sustains WABE's programming and growth.

PBS has helped our station by providing a Content Distribution and Interconnection system, which is a 24/7/365 cloud-based, terrestrial broadband and satellite video distribution system among PBS, stations, content distributors (American Public Television, National Educational Television Association, etc.), and digital platforms. PBS provides program licensing, contract negotiation, and industry representation, and helps negotiate carriage of local stations on national cable and satellite systems, as well as the streaming of local PBS station branding rights for carriage on third-party platforms. These are important services that a small station like ours could not afford to do on its own. They helped with the creation and operation of the PBS WARN System, which provides Wireless Emergency Alerts to every PBS station in the country for geotargeted distribution by cellular carriers, providing a backup path for the national alert system.

NPR has supported our station by designing, operating, and managing the public radio interconnection system—a terrestrial, satellite, and digital distribution system that connects and distributes content to more than 1,200 stations and other public radio producers and distributors. This allows for the transmission of live, simultaneous broadcasting across the nation, and also enables stations to transmit national, state, and local emergency alerts. NPR provides and supports an enterprise content management system (Grove CMS) for stations, including joint licensees that offer both radio and television programming. Grove facilitates the management of websites and mobile content and streamlines editorial workflows, creating more consistency and interoperability across existing public media website publishing systems. NPR serves as the backbone of public radio's national Emergency Alert System, with three direct connections to FEMA in case of an emergency that warrants an alert from the President.

We could not do all of this without the help of CPB, PBS, and NPR. Our community holds our service and these national institutions in the highest regard as critical, trusted and vital. Please preserve the longstanding bipartisan support for public media.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dorian
President & CEO, WABE