



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement from PBS President and CEO Paula Kerger on Proposed Cuts to Federal Funding for Public Broadcasting

"PBS and our nearly 350 member stations, along with our viewers, continue to remind Congress of our strong support among Republican and Democratic voters, in rural and urban areas across every region of the country. We have always had support from both parties in Congress, and will again make clear what the public receives in return for federal funding for public broadcasting. The cost of public broadcasting is small, only \$1.35 per citizen per year, and the benefits are tangible: increasing school readiness for kids 2-8, support for teachers and homeschoolers, lifelong learning, public safety communications and civil discourse."

Two new national surveys — one by [Rasmussen Reports](#) (subscribers) and [another conducted jointly](#) by leading Republican and Democratic researchers for PBS — reveal that voters across the political spectrum overwhelmingly oppose eliminating federal funding for public television. Rasmussen shows that just 21% of Americans — and only 32% of Republicans — favor ending public broadcasting support. In the PBS Hart Research-American Viewpoint poll, 83% of voters — including 70% of those who voted for President Trump — say they want Congress to find savings elsewhere.

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KCPT believes in the power of media on every platform and seeks to use that power to enrich, engage and entertain our viewers both on-air and online. We strive to advance conversations through community engagement and social media; explore complicated issues facing our region with ongoing reporting, investigative reports and informed discussions; and share the stories of people, places, and progress in our community.



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PBS AND STATIONS: TRUSTED, VALUED AND ESSENTIAL

Public broadcasting is one of America's best investments – just about \$1.35 per citizen each year.

Over the course of a year, 82% of all U.S. television households - and 200 million people - watch PBS.

Public television has been rated #1 in public trust among nationally known institutions for 14 consecutive years.

For every \$100 of federal spending, public broadcasting receives just a penny.

Public television is non-commercial and available for free to ALL Americans.

Public television provides 120,000+ trusted learning tools for teachers, parents, and caregivers.

Public television is rated as an excellent or good taxpayer value by 72% of voters.

73% of voters are against eliminating federal funding for public television. Republicans are against it by almost a 2-1 margin

Public television is America's largest classroom – 68% of all kids age two to eight watched their local public television station last year.

Learn more at [PBS.org/value](https://www.pbs.org/value)

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