



To the valued viewers of Louisiana Public Broadcasting:

We are deeply concerned that funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting is eliminated in the proposed federal budget released this week.

Federal funding is essential to LPB and all public broadcasting stations.

An independent study by Booz & Company concluded that federal funding is essential to maintaining public broadcasting service in the United States. It also determined that ending federal funding would severely diminish, and ultimately destroy, public broadcasting.

LPB receives approximately \$2.2 million in annual funds from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. These funds help make possible many of LPB's national award-winning documentaries and local productions, including Louisiana: The State We're In, Louisiana Public Square and Art Rocks, as well as the development and delivery of digital educational resources and educational outreach activities across our state.

LPB is Louisiana's largest classroom, providing quality children's programs 24/7 and resources for more than 40,000 teachers in the Louisiana's public, private and parochial schools. Three out of four Louisiana residents place a "very high", or "somewhat high" value on "children's television programming that is educational and free from commercials," according to a recent poll, conducted by the LSU Public Policy Research Lab.

Louisiana Public Broadcasting, along with 350 other public television stations and our viewers, continue to remind Congress of our strong support among Republican and Democratic voters, in rural and urban areas across every part of our state. 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.

But it's also important that members of Congress hear directly from their constituents. We are encouraging everyone to contact their Representative and Senators to express their views about LPB and the proposed elimination of funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

You can learn more about how this proposed budget change would significantly impact LPB's ability to operate, as well as other public broadcasters across the country, at the following links:

[Statement regarding the budget proposal](#) from the CPB

[President Trump's Budget Blueprint](#) from NPR

[www.lpb.org/value](http://www.lpb.org/value)

This potential threat to our operating funding underscores just how vital your membership support is to Louisiana Public Broadcasting and how thankful LPB is for that support.