



MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA)
RE: **Analysis of House Budget Cuts on the Corporation for Public Broadcasting**
DATE: February 22, 2011

Last week, the U.S. House approved a budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2011. One provision would eliminate the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Analysis released today shows that this plan would have a detrimental impact on public broadcasting in Iowa.

There is no question that the time has come for tough budget decisions, but **the smart way to bring down the deficit is for Congress to pursue a balanced approach of major spending cuts and necessary revenue increases, while continuing to take steps to strengthen the Iowa economy.** That is the only way our country will remain competitive in the global economy and create good jobs that provide a sustained economic expansion in the years ahead.

The House proposal would cut more than \$430 million in funding for public broadcasting, the vast majority of which goes directly to local public radio and television stations to support their programming. This would effectively cut the operating budgets of all 1,300 local stations across the country by an average of 15 percent. In addition to providing quality content and programming for the communities they serve, public television and radio stations directly support almost 17,000 jobs.

In Iowa, 10 public radio and television stations received about \$3.9 million this year through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The House proposal would eliminate this funding beginning in 2013 and severely impact the quality of public radio and television programming that 1.7 million Iowans enjoy every week.

WOI-FM	Ames	\$294,931
KUNI-FM	Cedar Falls	\$187,842
KCCK-FM	Cedar Rapids	\$112,707
KSUI-FM	Iowa City	\$246,764
KWIT-FM	Sioux City	\$137,187
KBBG-FM	Waterloo	\$122,059
Iowa Public Television	Johnston	\$2,547,792
KPVL-FM	Postville	\$69,875
KALA-FM	Davenport	\$74,255
KIWR-FM	Council Bluffs	\$99,976

For example, Iowa Public Television will see a cut of \$2.5 million or 13.5 percent of its budget. This will result in a loss of educational and general audience programming, and programs about Iowa that only Iowa Public Television can provide.

Dan Miller, Executive Director and General Manager of Iowa Public Television said, **"Eliminating all federal funding for public broadcasting would cripple Iowa Public Television, seriously jeopardizing our ability to deliver programs and services to the 1.5 million people who use them each week.**

"Everything we do would be affected by this: programs for children and their parents, for teachers and their students, for the 9 out of 10 Iowans who turn to us at least once a month for educational and enlightening programming they can't get anywhere else.

"We're already doing considerably more with considerably less. Doing more with none simply can't be done."

Harkin's full statement on the budget proposals before Congress can be found [here](#).