

Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Biased Media

Administration Policy:

President Trump issued an Executive Order (EO) titled <u>Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of</u> <u>Biased Media</u>. This EO requires the <u>Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) Board of</u> <u>Directors</u> and all federal agencies to cease federal funding for <u>National Public Radio (NPR)</u> and <u>Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)</u>.

Specifically, the EO states that the CPB shall cease direct funding to NPR and PBS and cancel existing direct funding to the maximum extent allowed by law. Similarly, the CPB must cease indirect funding to NPR and PBS by ensuring that licensees and permittees of public radio and television stations do not use federal funds for NPR and PBS.

Additionally, the EO requires federal agencies to identify and terminate any direct or indirect funding to NPR and PBS to the maximum extent allowed by law. Agencies must also review any remaining grants or contracts that NPR and PBS are party to. The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) is required to determine if NPR or PBS are following their statutory mandate that "no person shall be subjected to discrimination in employment . . . on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, or sex."

The EO notes within its stated purpose that the CPB model is outdated, "Unlike in 1967, when the CPB was established, today the media landscape is filled with abundant, diverse, and innovative news options." CPB is required by 47 U.S.C. 396(f)(3) to not "contribute to or otherwise support any political party." The EO notes that the CPB fails to adhere to its governing statute in its funding of NPR and PBS, "…neither entity presents a fair, accurate, or unbiased portrayal of current events to taxpaying citizens."

Background:

- On March 26, 2025, the House Committee on Oversight DOGE Subcommittee held a <u>hearing</u>, "Anti-American Airwaves: Holding the heads of NPR and PBS Accountable," which examined and exposed many <u>examples</u> of the political and ideological bias of NPR and PBS.
- Among the many examples of bias provided by the White House is a study that found PBS <u>coverage</u> of the 2024 RNC convention being 72 percent negative and coverage of the DNC convention being 88 percent positive. NPR also refused to cover the 2020 Hunter Biden laptop story <u>stating</u>, "We don't want to waste our time on stories that are not really stories, and we don't want to waste the listeners' and readers' time on stories that are just pure distractions."
- A fact sheet from the White House can be found <u>here</u>.