



Klaus,

Donald Trump's defunding of public radio and television is already having a devastating impact.

PBS laid off 15% of its staff.¹ New Jersey PBS announced it will shut down entirely.² The Corporation for Public Broadcasting closed its doors at the end of September.³ Over 50 local stations have already announced significant layoffs, with many more to come.⁴

But this fight is not over. Not by a mile.

Demand Progress Action has mobilized over 100,000 people to contact Congress in support of public broadcasting. **Now, we're asking for your help to demand that Congress restore funding for public radio and television in next year's federal budget.**

[Will you make a donation to help save public radio and television, and push for other key reforms? Every dollar counts!](#)

If you've stored your payment information with ActBlue Express, your donation to Demand Progress will process immediately.

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This isn't just a disaster for public broadcasting. It's a crisis for democracy.

It's all part of Donald Trump's ongoing effort to destroy any news outlet that questions MAGA propaganda — and any organization that dares to challenge his power.

Corporate news outlets have largely capitulated to Trump in the face of his harassing lawsuits, bogus FCC investigations, and intimidation from the Justice Department.

Social media outlets like Facebook and X are now controlled by MAGA-ified billionaires who are manipulating their algorithms to suppress legitimate news.

That leaves public radio and television among the few remaining trusted, independent sources of news.

Trump's defunding is hitting rural stations the hardest. "We are crippled here," said Betsy Schwien, the general manager of Smoky Hills PBS in Kansas. "It is the absolute worst-case scenario."⁵

But what's been torn down can be rebuilt. Next year's federal budget process is just beginning, and every time another station shuts down, Republicans feel even more pressure to restore funding. So we're mobilizing tens of thousands of people across the country to make their voices heard.⁶

[Will you make a donation to help support our work, including restoring funding for public radio and television?](#)

Thanks for taking action,

Joey and the team at Demand Progress Action

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Sources:

1. Axios, "PBS slashes 15% of its staff after federal funding cuts," [September 5, 2025](#).
2. WHYY, "NJ PBS, New Jersey's only dedicated public television channel, will cease operations in the Garden State next summer," [September 23, 2025](#).
3. PBS, "CPB says it is shutting down after being defunded by Congress, targeted by Trump," [August 1, 2025](#).
4. Corporation for Public Broadcasting, "The Impact of the Federal Rescission on Public Media," [October 9, 2025](#).
5. Protect My Public Media, "The Cost of Closing the Corporation for Public Broadcasting," [October 8, 2025](#).
6. The New York Times, "After Trump's Cuts, 'Crippled' NPR and PBS Stations Must Transform," [September 14, 2025](#).

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