

**The Honorable Chuck Schumer**, Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

DOCUMENTARY   
 PRODUCERS  
ALLIANCE 

June 11, 2025

Dear Senate Minority Leader Schumer,

We, the Board of the Documentary Producers Alliance, a non-profit organization representing documentary film and TV producers, write to you on behalf of our membership to express our serious concerns regarding efforts aimed at defunding public media in the United States, notably the recent Rescission Request sent by the White House to Congress on June 3rd.

As a community of working professionals, from small business owners to creative entrepreneurs, we rely on a competitive distribution market to bring high-quality documentaries and TV shows to audiences across America. And now more than ever, public media plays an increasingly vital role in that market, especially as major streaming platforms like Netflix and Amazon shift toward in-house production of global franchises and commercial entertainment, excluding independent filmmakers like us.

While we support efforts to reduce unnecessary government spending, we believe that federal funding for public media is a modest investment that yields significant economic returns — not just in Hollywood, but also in small towns and rural communities around the country. Thousands of producers, directors, editors, cinematographers, and other media professionals depend on public media to support themselves and their families. Many of us operate small production companies, and without public media, our businesses are at risk and the crews we employ will struggle to find meaningful job opportunities.

We urge you to oppose the Rescission Request and any similar efforts to defund public media. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. The Documentary Producers Alliance welcomes any opportunity to discuss further how public media directly supports working professionals and American businesses across our country.

Sincerely,

**The Board of Directors**  
Documentary Producers Alliance

CC:

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***Advocating and setting best practices on behalf of all documentary producers.***

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