

TO: Authorized Representatives
FROM: National Affairs Office, NPR
DATE: February 3, 2003
SUBJECT: President releases FY 2004 budget

PRESIDENT RELEASES FY 2004 BUDGET – SIGNIFICANT CUTS TO PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Today, the President released the Administration's fiscal year (FY) 2004 budget, which if enacted, would have a devastating effect on public broadcasting. Advance appropriations are eliminated for CPB and funding for PTFP has been zeroed out. In addition, the budget includes language that states that up to \$80 million can be used from CPB's FY 2004 appropriation, which was allocated in FY 2002, to fund public broadcasting's conversion to digital technology and up to \$20 million can be used for public television's satellite interconnection system. If CPB were to follow the President's plan and take \$100 million out of its FY 2004 appropriation to fund digital and the TV satellite interconnection system, this would result in cuts of roughly 25% to CSG grants. These cuts combined with the FY 2003 rescission to CPB of \$10 to \$15 million we anticipate will be included in the final omnibus FY 2003 appropriations measure could seriously threaten public radio programming.

Budget Allocations:

- FY 2006 CPB funding -- \$0
- FY 2004 PTFP -- \$0
- FY 2004 digital funding – CPB can allocate up to \$80 million from its regular account for digital

National Public Radio, CPB, APTS, and PBS released a joint statement today responding to the President's budget plan, which is attached to this e-mail. You should begin preparing your own response to inquiries from your local press on how these cuts would impact your station and the communities it serves.

National Affairs is preparing materials for Capitol Hill day that will show the impact of the President's budget to public radio. It is extremely important that station managers meet with their elected representatives on Capitol Hill day or in their districts in the near future and educate them about how the Administration's plan would effect the services you provide to their constituents. **National Affairs will have a draft letter prepared for station managers to send to their members of Congress later this week.**

QUESTIONS

Should you have questions regarding this e-mail, please contact:
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