FROM: Tammie Reilly

Greater Northshire Access Television, Inc.

RE: FY2025 Budget

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to provide testimony for the FY2025 budget. My name is Tammie Reilly, I serve on the Vermont Access Network board of directors, and I am the Executive Director of Greater Northshire Access Television, also known as GNAT-TV. We are a regional PEG access organization serving 11 towns in and around the Manchester area including: (Arlington, Dorset, Londonderry, Manchester, Peru, Rupert, Sandgate, Stratton, Sunderland, Weston, Winhall).

I am writing to ask for support for the Vermont Access Network with \$1 million in one-time funding, while a permanent funding source is discussed in the legislature.

Community members depend on GNAT-TV for trustworthy local information and open access to local government proceedings that impact their daily lives, we often hear from citizens that we are the most thorough source and sometimes the only source for local election information. Thousands of community members rely on our calendar services for local information. Nonprofit organizations, schools, students and teachers utilize our media education services, and we provide a lasting archive of community events and culture for generations to come.

As commercial media outlets focus on more global audiences, local community media centers provide vital communication services for citizens, connect them to their government and to one another. Please support the Vermont Access Network with \$1 million in one-time funding, while a permanent funding source is discussed in the legislature.

Vermonters from all walks of life rely on community media to be informed, engaged and inspired. Thank you.

Tammie M. Reilly Executive Director, Greater Northshire Access Television 802.362.7070

www.gnat-tv.org

**Connecting Community, Empowering People** 

Comcast Cable Channels 1074, 1084, 1094 GNAT-TV is also available on Apple TV, Roku, Facebook, Fire TV, YouTube