

Cato Institute analyst lays out case for defunding pubcasting

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Public broadcasting "suffers the main downside of public funding — political influence and control — yet enjoys little of the upside — a significant taxpayer contribution that would relieve it of the need to seek corporate underwriting and listener donations," writes [Trevor Burrus](#), a legal associate at the Cato Institute's Center for Constitutional Studies, in his policy analysis released today (May 21) titled, ["If You Love Something Set It Free: A Case for Defunding Public Broadcasting."](#)

Burrus writes that PBS and NPR "produce some excellent programming." However, he believes a government-funded institution should be necessary, prudent, and, most important, "authorized by our Constitution. Public broadcasting fails all three tests."

The analysis is [available free for download here](#).

The Cato Institute is a libertarian think tank based in Washington, D.C., which supports individual liberties and limited government.