

February 10, 2016

To whom It may concern,

I have been blind since birth and have been listening to the Connecticut Radio Information System (CRIS) since the first broadcast on November 26, 1979. CRIS is a radio reading service for the blind and physically disable residence of CT and is broadcast 7 days a week 24 hours a day. Over 300 volunteers read 20 newspapers and 30 magazines regularly and CRIS is the only radio reading service in CT. Each day I listen to the reading of the front pages of the Hartford Courant, New York Times, Manchester Journal Inquirer and the New Britain Herald. I also listen regularly to the sports section, editorial pages and the obituaries. This service allows me to be aware of all current events and the sports news daily and I am able to discuss this information with my family, friends and colleagues. If I did not have this service I would feel left out and isolated. Just image how you would feel if beginning today you were unable to read a newspaper or magazine due to a visual or physical disability. On behalf of all CRIS listeners we would appreciate your assistance in keeping the current funding of \$71,000 in place.

CRIS is the talking newsstand for the blind and physically disable residence throughout the state of CT. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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