

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2438

S. P. 875

In Senate, January 24, 1974

Referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Clifford of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

**AN ACT to Create the Bureau of Telecommunications within the
Department of Finance and Administration.**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, § 283, sub-§ 8, additional. Section 283 of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 8 to read as follows:

8. Bureau of Telecommunication Services. The Bureau of Telecommunication Services shall be headed by a director.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 5, c. 156, additional. Title 5 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 156 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 156

TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

§ 1901. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words shall have the following meanings.

1. Bureau. "Bureau" means the Bureau of Telecommunication Services.
2. Director. "Director" means the Director of Telecommunication Services.
3. Telecommunications. "Telecommunications" and "communications" are synonymous and are defined as those systems together with their com-

ponents which are necessary for the transfer of information over a distance, utilizing electrical or electronic means and includes telephones, teleprinters, voice, data and video circuits, channels and frequencies and related equipment used by or shared among state and federal agencies or by their political subdivisions in the performance of their official duties and responsibilities.

§ 1902. Powers and duties

The Department of Finance and Administration, through the Bureau of Telecommunication Services, shall have the authority:

1. Telecommunication services. To establish, maintain and operate state government common use communication systems and services; to plan, design and implement interagency communication services and intra-agency shared communication services to the extent determined to be practicable; licensing and approval of new communications systems, facilities, equipment, personnel and other resources required by state government operations, in accordance with Federal Communications Commission regulations;

2. Coordination. Coordination communication frequency allocations;

3. Technical assistance. Providing technical assistance and advice to state agencies, political subdivisions and public service agencies of the State as to systems or methods to be used to meet communications requirements efficiently and effectively;

4. Purchase, lease and maintenance. Assisting in the purchase, lease and maintenance of all communications services for State Government and, where determined feasible and practicable, implementing joint maintenance service arrangements;

5. Joint use. Consolidating, where feasible and practicable, the communications systems and services of state agencies and political subdivisions and providing for their joint use by such state agencies and political subdivisions;

6. Annual plan. Developing and maintaining an annual state plan for governmental and public service;

7. Charges. To levy appropriate charges against all agencies using services provided by the bureau.

§ 1903. Advisory board

An advisory board is established to furnish advice and direction to the Bureau of Telecommunication Services. The membership of the board will include representation from the following State agencies:

Attorney General;
 Department of Military, Civil Defense and Veterans Services;
 Department of Public Safety;
 Department of Conservation;
 Department of Inland Fisheries and Game;
 Department of Commerce and Industry;

Department of Educational and Cultural Services ;
Department of Finance and Administration ;
Department of Marine Resources ;
Department of Transportation ;
Department of Health and Welfare ;
Department of Mental Health and Corrections ;
Maine Law Enforcement Planning and Assistance Agency ;
Department of Manpower Affairs ;
Office of the Secretary of State.

Other state, local, county and public service agencies may be admitted to board membership on a majority vote of board members.

§ 1904. Director

The head of the bureau shall be the Director of Telecommunication Services, appointed by the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, subject to the Personnel Law.

§ 1905. Professional and technical services

The director is authorized, with the approval of the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, to employ or engage such outside technical or professional personnel and services as may be necessary within funds available.

§ 1906. Intergovernmental cooperation and assistance

The director, with the approval of the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, is authorized and empowered to enter into such agreements with the Federal Government and other agencies and organizations as will promote the objectives of this chapter, and to accept funds from the Federal Government, municipal and county agencies, or from any individual or corporation to be expended for purposes consistent with this chapter.

§ 1907. Intragovernmental Service Account

All fees realized and all expenses paid by the Bureau of Telecommunication Services will be accounted for by the establishment of an Intragovernmental Service Account.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this Bill is reflected in the title.

This Bill implements Recommendation No. 1, Telecommunications, in the Management and Cost Survey Report.

The Governor supported this Bill in his Special Message to the Special Session of the 106th Legislature presented on January 10, 1974.