

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 520

6
7 S.P. 165

In Senate, February 1, 1983

8 Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 1, 1983. Referred to
9 the Committee on Business Legislation, and ordered printed pursuant to Joint
10 Rule 14.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Clark of Cumberland.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Prohibit Unfair Competition
18 from the State in Video Productions.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §852, sub-§3 is enacted to
23 read:

24 3. Competition. No facilities, equipment, per-
25 sonnel or materials acquired pursuant to this chapter
26 may be used in competition with privately-owned media
27 producers for production or editing of media mate-
28 rials for uses other than in-house educational mate-
29 rials, broadcast materials for statewide public
30 broadcasting or educational cablecasting.

31 Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §8351, as enacted by PL 1981,
32 c. 693, §§5 and 8, is repealed and the following
33 enacted in its place:

1 §8351. State aid for vocational centers and voca-
2 tional regions

3 1. State aid. State aid for vocational centers
4 and vocational regions shall be in accordance with
5 chapter 605 and Title 20, section 3457.

6 2. Use of facilities, equipment, personnel or
7 materials. No facilities, equipment, personnel or
8 materials acquired pursuant to this subchapter may be
9 used in competition with privately-owned media pro-
10 ducers for production or editing of media materials
11 for uses other than in-house educational materials,
12 broadcast materials for statewide public broadcasting
13 or educational cablecasting.

14 Sec. 3. 20-A MRS §10907 is enacted to read:

15 §10907. Competition

16 No facilities, equipment, personnel or materials
17 acquired pursuant to this chapter may be used in com-
18 petition with privately-owned media producers for
19 production or editing of media materials for uses
20 other than in-house educational materials, broadcast
21 materials for statewide public broadcasting or educa-
22 tional cablecasting.

23 STATEMENT OF FACT

24 The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the
25 ability of the tax-supported educational facilities
26 to use public resources in unfair competition with
27 private media producers. The availability of pub-
28 licly subsidized capital and labor, other economies
29 of scale and the sales tax exemption to which tax-
30 supported institutions are entitled leaves independ-
31 ent media producers unable to compete for government
32 and private contracts for media productions. This
33 bill limits the use of these public resources to the
34 production of programs for the public broadcasting
35 network, educational cablecasting and in-house educa

1 tional programming as they were originally intended.
2 Section 1 refers to Maine Public Broadcasting,
3 section 2 to the vocational schools and section 3 to
4 the University of Maine.

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