

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
115TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE AMENDMENT "E" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 945,  
L.D. 2409, Bill, "An Act to Improve Educational Public  
Broadcasting Statewide"

Amend the amendment by striking out everything after the  
title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place  
the following:

'Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title  
and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the  
following:

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

**Sec. 1. Commission established; membership.** The Select  
Commission on Public Broadcasting, known in this Act as the  
"commission," is established to consider changes in the delivery  
of educational noncommercial radio and television programming in  
this State. The commission consists of 6 members: one Senator  
appointed by the President of the Senate; one member of the House  
of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
Representatives; one employee and one member of the Maine Public  
Broadcasting Network, known as MPBN, appointed by the Governor;  
and one employee and one member of WCBB, operated by the  
Colby-Bates-Bowdoin Educational Telecasting Corporation,  
appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
of the House of Representatives.

**Sec. 2. Appointments; meetings.** All appointments must be made  
no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Act.  
The Executive Director of the Legislative Council must be  
notified by all appointing authorities once the selections have  
been made. When the appointment of all members has been

2 completed, the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and  
convene the first meeting of the commission no later than August  
4 1, 1992. The commission shall select a chair from among its  
members.

6 **Sec. 3. Duties.** The commission shall study the feasibility of  
changes to MPBN and WCBB. In conducting the study the commission  
8 shall examine whether the financial, educational and policy  
interests of the State are best met by maintaining the current  
10 structure of the 2 entities, combining MPBN and WCBB to form a  
public broadcasting network, combining MPBN and WCBB to form a  
12 private nonprofit corporation or some other alternative.

14 **Sec. 4. Powers.** In performing the duties in section 3, the  
commission may:

- 16 1. Meet at convenient times and places within the State;
- 18 2. Hold informational sessions for discussions with the  
20 public and other knowledgeable persons; and
- 22 3. Conduct research on questions within the scope of the  
24 study.

26 **Sec. 5. Staff assistance.** MPBN and WCBB shall provide staffing  
assistance to the commission. The commission may request  
28 staffing assistance from the Legislative Council.

30 **Sec. 6. Reimbursement.** Members of the commission who are  
Legislators are entitled to the legislative per diem, as defined  
32 in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, for days of  
attendance at commission meetings. All members of the commission  
34 who are not state employees are entitled to expenses, as defined  
in Title 5, section 12002, subsection 2, upon application to the  
36 Executive Director of the Legislative Council for those expenses.

38 **Sec. 7. Report.** The commission shall submit its report  
together with any necessary implementing legislation to the First  
40 Regular Session of the 116th Legislature no later than December  
15, 1992.

42 **Sec. 8. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated  
44 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1992-93

46 **LEGISLATURE**

48 **Select Commission on Public Broadcasting**

2	Personal Services	\$700
	All Other	2,600
4		
6	Provides funds for the Select Commission on Public Broadcasting for the per diem of legislative members, expenses of all members and miscellaneous commission expenses.	
8		
10	<b>LEGISLATURE</b>	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$3,300</u>
12		
14	<b>UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE</b>	
16	<b>Maine Public Broadcasting Network</b>	
18	All Other	(\$3,300)
20	Provides for the deappropriation of funds from the Maine Public Broadcasting Network.	
22		
24	<b>BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM</b>	
26	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>(\$3,300)</u>
28		
30	<b>SECTION 8</b>	
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<u>\$-0-</u>

32 **FISCAL NOTE**

34  
36 This bill provides a General Fund appropriation to the  
38 Select Commission on Public Broadcasting of \$3,300 in fiscal year  
40 1992-93 for the per diem of legislative members, expenses of all  
42 members and miscellaneous commission expenses. A deappropriation  
of \$3,300 in fiscal year 1992-93 from the Maine Public  
Broadcasting Network will provide the funding necessary to cover  
the costs of the Select Commission. The Legislature can absorb  
related staffing costs during any interim between sessions.' '

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### STATEMENT OF FACT

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6           The amendment replaces the bill and establishes the Select  
8 Commission on Public Broadcasting to consider changes in the  
10 delivery of educational noncommercial radio and television  
12 programming in the State. The commission will study whether WCBB  
and MPBN should merge to form some new entity or remain  
separate. The commission must submit a report and any  
implementing legislation by December 15, 1992. The amendment  
also adds an appropriation and a fiscal note to the bill.

Filed by Rep. O'Dea of Orono

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the  
House

3/26/92

(Filing No. H-1285)