

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 1473

S.P. 535

In Senate, May 2, 1995

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**An Act to Establish the State Telecommunications Network  
Coordination Commission.**

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Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BUSTIN of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Senators: BUTLAND of Cumberland, CIANCHETTE of Somerset, RAND  
of Cumberland, Representatives: JACQUES of Waterville, KONTOS of Windham,  
MITCHELL of Vassalboro, MITCHELL of Portland.

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

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Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3307-F is enacted to read:

§3307-F. State Telecommunications Network Coordination Commission

1. State Telecommunications Network Coordination Commission. The State Telecommunications Network Coordination Commission, as established by section 12004-I, subsection 6-E and referred to in this section as the "commission," is created to develop and maintain a telecommunications network plan for the State.

2. Membership. The commission consists of no more than 20 members appointed by the Governor from among applications submitted to the Governor. The appointees must be selected on the basis of expertise, experience and interest in telecommunications and may include carriers and vendors; broadcast and print media professionals; representatives from university, government, law enforcement and medical service entities; representatives from schools, administrative districts and school unions; consumers; and other professionals from the public and private sectors. All appointments must be made within 30 days of the effective date of this section.

3. Term of office. The term of office for members is 3 years, except that 1/3 of the initial appointments must be for one-year terms; 1/3 for 2-year terms; and 1/3 for 3-year terms. Commission members shall elect annually a chair from among the membership by majority vote. A vacancy must be filled by the Governor to complete the term of the appointee who vacated the office.

4. Meetings; quorum. The commission shall meet as necessary to complete its duties. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

5. Duties. The commission shall:

A. Identify the information needs of the State;

B. Prepare a statewide strategy and implementation telecommunications network plan that is defined in terms of connectivity, linkages and capacities;

C. Provide for the use of the State as a major hub in network links between surrounding states and Provinces of Canada; and

D. Devise incentives for telecommunications carriers and

2 vendors to conform to the commission's plan when  
implementing their own expansion of services.

4 6. Report. By January 1st of each year, the commission  
shall submit a report to the Legislature on the activities of the  
6 commission, together with any recommended legislation.

8 7. Expenses. The members are entitled to expenses, as  
defined in chapter 379, upon application to the Executive  
10 Director of the Legislative Council.

12 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§6-E** is enacted to read:

14	<u>6-E.</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>5 MRSA</u>
16	<u>Economic</u>	<u>Telecom-</u>	<u>Only</u>	<u>§3307-F</u>
18	<u>Development</u>	<u>munications</u>		
20		<u>Network</u>		
		<u>Coordination</u>		
		<u>Commission</u>		

22 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

24 This bill establishes the State Telecommunications Network  
Coordination Commission.