

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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November 8, 1961

REPORT

To: His Excellency, Governor John H. Reed

From: The Governor's Committee on Educational Television,  
Harold D. Glidden, Chairman

Subject: Report of the Committee

The committee appointed by the Governor consisted of the following members:

Harold D. Glidden, Presque Isle, Chairman  
Joseph A. Aliberti, Cape Elizabeth  
Senator Earl W. Davis, Harrison  
Arthur E. Ela, North Anson  
Frederick A. Halla, Portland  
George H. Hunt, Hallowell  
Elmore B. Lyford, Station WCBB  
Representative T. Tarpy Schulten, Woolwich  
Eldon H. Shute, Jr., Farmington  
Donald V. Taverner, Orono

The State Department of Education furnished secretarial service for the Committee, and a member of the Department met with the Committee as a liaison officer.

At the first meeting of the Committee, Governor Reed met with the group and outlined its function, which was to determine the cost of building a suitable facility or facilities in the state for educational television and to determine what the maintenance and operational costs will be in succeeding years, and he asked that the results of the Committee's deliberations be presented to him, if possible, not later than November 6.

At the second meeting of the Committee, Mr. Michael Ambrosino, Executive Director for the Eastern Educational Network, was present. He discussed the services rendered by WGBH, educational television station in Boston, and, also, its operating costs.

At the third and final meeting, Mr. Roger Peterson, engineer for Jansky & Bailey, advised the Committee on the technical aspects of the engineering study prepared for the regular session of the Legislature.

Members of the Committee reviewed the cost figures in the engineering study carefully, compared them with expenditures at WENH, educational television station in New Hampshire, and the Boston station. The Committee passed the following votes:

VOTED unanimously, after giving due consideration to the comments of Mr. Roger Peterson, engineer for Jansky & Bailey, and Mr. Michael Ambrosino, executive director of the Eastern Educational Network, and studying the report ETV For Maine presented by Mr. Jack McBride, consultant, we believe the costs of the remainder of the network for Maine as recommended in the ETV For Maine report, with studio included at the University of Maine, are estimated to be a minimum of \$1,400,000.

VOTED unanimously the organizational costs are estimated to be \$50,000 per year for as long as such organizational time continues, which is estimated at 12 to 18 months.

VOTED, 8-2, total annual operating costs, including the studio at the University of Maine and appropriations for the State Department of Education for television, are estimated to be \$280,000 in the first year of operation, which will provide for 35 - 50 hours of televised programs per week; \$290,000 in the second year, and will provide for 50 hours of televised programs; \$346,900 for the third year, providing for 70 hours of televised programs; the fourth and fifth years, \$346,900 per year, providing for 70 hours.

The eight members who subscribe to the above estimates of operational costs are Joseph A. Aliberti, Earl W. Davis, Frederick A. Halla, George H. Hunt, Elmore B. Lyford, T. Tarpy Schulten, Eldon H. Shute, Jr., and Donald V. Taverner. Two members feel that the above operational costs are not sufficient, and their opinions are expressed on page 3.

A minority of this committee believes that the operating costs of the state-wide ETV, such as is proposed in the Jansky & Bailey report, will be substantially more than those suggested by the majority. We wish to make the following notations:

The figures which the minority feels are realistic do not include the following items which are important and substantial:

- A. Those amounts which must be appropriated to the Department of Education.
- B. Those amounts which other departments will want to spend on TV for purpose of those departments.
- C. Cost which may be necessary to provide a governing body to manage and set up policy for the system.

The principal reasons for the difference in figures are:

- A. We believe that more personnel is necessary than the report recommends.
- B. Added facilities such as more micro-wave stations, translators, etc., will probably be necessary as tests indicate problem areas.
- C. Heating, air conditioning, vehicle costs, etc., we feel are underestimated.
- D. Growth in usage not now envisioned will surely take place, entailing added costs.
- E. Replacements caused by use and, particularly, by obsolescence contribute a larger item to cost than considered by the majority.

Our opinion of operational costs for the following full years of operation are:

First year - \$415,000	Fourth year - \$575,000
Second year - 455,000	Fifth year - 585,000
Third year - 505,000	

Members subscribing to this report are

Harold D. Glidden, Chairman

Arthur E. Ela

This report to Governor John H. Reed is submitted on November 8 and signed  
by the Committee in full, as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman  
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