

Introduced: 1/15/70
Referred: Health,
Welfare & Education

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 372

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Alaska Educational Broadcasting
7 Commission."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 14 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 58. ALASKA EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING COMMISSION

11 Sec. 14.58.010. CREATION OF ALASKA EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING
12 COMMISSION. There is created within the Department of Education the
13 Alaska Educational Broadcasting Commission.

14 Sec. 14.58.020. MEMBERSHIP AND TERM OF OFFICE. (a) The commis-
15 sion consists of nine members appointed by the governor, without regard
16 to political affiliation, subject to confirmation by a majority of the
17 members of the legislature in joint session. In making appointments to
18 the commission, the governor shall give due consideration to representa-
19 tion from such fields as higher education, elementary and secondary
20 education, commercial broadcasting, public health, public works,
21 labor, commerce and the professions. Members may be removed only for cause.

22 (b) The members of the commission shall serve staggered terms of
23 five years, with the initial terms determined by lot.

24 Sec. 14.58.030. COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES. Members of the com-
25 mission receive no salary, but are entitled to per diem and travel
26 expenses authorized by law for other commissions.

27 Sec. 14.58.040. CHAIRMAN. At the first meeting, the commission
28 shall elect a chairman from among its members to serve for one year.
29 A chairman may be elected and serve for more than one consecutive term.

1 Sec. 14.58.050. PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION. The commission is
2 created to encourage and supervise the initial development of educa-
3 tional broadcasting, and to provide for the regulation of educational
4 broadcasting.

5 Sec. 14.58.060. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION. The commission shall

6 (1) control and supervise the use of broadcasting channels
7 reserved by the Federal Communications Commission for educational
8 broadcasting purposes;

9 (2) initiate or receive for review and approval all applica-
10 tions for educational broadcasting licenses submitted to the Federal
11 Communications Commission for or on behalf of an elementary school
12 system, community college, institution of higher learning, private
13 educational institution, nonprofit community or municipal organization
14 in the state;

15 (3) initiate or receive for review and approval all
16 applications for federal, state or private funds if the applications
17 involve any form of educational broadcasting;

18 (4) receive all federal, state or private funds, property
19 or assistance that may be appropriated, granted or otherwise made
20 available to the commission for educational broadcasting purposes at
21 all levels of education, and use and disburse funds and property for
22 purposes consistent with the terms of this chapter, subject to
23 reasonable limitations imposed by the grantor;

24 (5) provide consultative services in all aspects of
25 educational broadcasting to all public or private agencies in the
26 state which request them;

27 (6) serve as a library and clearinghouse for information
28 on broadcasting for educational and public purposes;

29 (7) have the final authority over the broadcasting policy

1 programming; and

2 (8) perform all other functions necessary to insure the
3 orderly and coordinated development of educational broadcasting in
4 the state.

5 Sec. 14.58.070. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION. The commission may

6 (1) employ all consultative, technical and clerical personnel
7 necessary for the implementation of this chapter, within the limits of
8 available funds;

9 (2) employ a director, who shall be directly responsible to
10 the commission in financial and administrative matters;

11 (3) where no other competent contracting agency exists,
12 lease, purchase, construct, own, operate, manage and be the licensee
13 of educational broadcasting stations, production centers, and all
14 other related equipment and facilities for the production and trans-
15 mission of open circuit, closed circuit, 2,500 Megahertz, and other
16 transmission means necessary to provide fully effective educational
17 broadcasting in the state.

18 (4) appoint unpaid advisory committees to assist in de-
19 velopment of programs for instructional and public television broad-
20 casts.

21 Sec. 14.58.080. COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING. Nothing in this chapter
22 may be construed to restrict or control commercial broadcast stations
23 or companies operating or licensed in the state.

24 Sec. 14.58.090. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter, unless the context
25 otherwise requires

26 (1) "commission" means the Alaska Educational Broadcasting
27 Commission;

28 (2) "educational broadcasting" includes, but is not limited
29 to, television and radio transmission by 2,500 Megahertz, closed

1 circuit or microwave video and audio programming, slow-scan television
2 programming, programming via satellite, teletype or facsimile
3 transmission, and distribution methods, when the transmission,
4 programming and distribution are intended to serve a noncommercial
5 educational, public or instructional purpose.
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