

HOUSE JOURNAL

LETTER OF INTENT

HCS SB 696

It is the intent of the House Finance Committee in offering HCS SB 696 to provide a pilot satellite television project for the State of Alaska.

The \$1.5 million appropriation is designed to provide a full-time satellite transponder leased for one year. This will provide one channel of television for selected villages, and bring live satellite coverage to the urban areas. The transponder may also be used to implement Health and Education video services to Alaska.

The priority use for a state-leased transponder is to provide television coverage for public and commercial facilities in urban and rural areas. To the extent that time is available beyond this basic intent, the GOT shall utilize the satellite time for any use in the public interest. The GOT shall include in the report to the legislature a plan for comprehensive satellite use, not limited to television broadcasting.

The appropriation goes to the Governor's Office of Telecommunications (GOT). The GOT is responsible for the completion of the project, however they have the authority to contract with any other state agency or private contractor for assistance with the project.

The village site selections shall be made by the Alaska Federation of Natives telecommunications committee, with the concurrence of the GOT. The AFN committee will work with the GOT and the AEBC in determining programming.

Commercial and Public broadcast stations with access to a large earth station will have the opportunity to receive network programs via the state-leased transponder. This will offer same-day viewing for many network programs, and allow live satellite broadcast for public affairs and special events state-wide.

This pilot program will offer the opportunity to determine the best technical and administrative procedure for a state-wide program. The GOT shall report to the next legislative session their recommendations for the implementation of a state-wide satellite television system.

Section 2 of this bill appropriates \$150,000 from the general fund to the GOT studio for the purpose of establishing a state-wide public radio network. The radio network shall interconnect existing public radio stations to share existing programs and provide an economic method of distributing state-wide radio programs.

The public radio network shall program certain legislative hearings and include in the format calls from constituents who wish to present testimony on selected committee hearings.

HOUSE JOURNAL

Section 3 provides \$100,000 for the purpose of providing a video legislative information service to all broadcast stations, public and commercial, throughout the state, and moving the GOT studio to the capitol building, if space becomes available.

If the production facility is transferred from the GOT, the funding for section 2 and 3 is automatically transferred with the facility.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. Malone", is written over a horizontal line.

Hugh Malone, Chairman
House Finance Committee

Original sponsor: Health, Education and
Social Services Committee

Offered: 4/23/76
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2

HOUSE CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 696

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Office
7 of the Governor, office of telecommunications; and
8 providing for an effective date."

9

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

10

* Section 1. The sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from the general fund
11 to the Office of the Governor, office of telecommunications for a satellite
12 transponder lease project to demonstrate the feasibility of satellite communi-
13 cations in Alaska, priority being given to satellite television.

14

* Sec. 2. The sum of \$150,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
15 the Office of the Governor, office of telecommunications for the purpose of
16 establishing a public radio network.

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* Sec. 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 1976.

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Introduced: 3/9/76
Referred: Health, Education
and Social Services and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 696

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Office
7 of the Governor, office of telecommunications; and
8 providing for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. The sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from the general fund
11 to the Office of the Governor, office of telecommunications for a satellite
12 television project to demonstrate the viability of satellite television in
13 the state.

14 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1976.
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ALASKA RADIO NETWORK

PURPOSES:

- 1) To interconnect existing radio stations throughout Alaska to supplement local programming.

Currently, local bush stations have difficulty affording continual programming and even more difficulty producing news shows on the events of the day in Alaska.

- 2) To make it possible on a moments notice to cover an event of importance anywhere in the state for all Alaskans to hear simultaneously.
- 3) To bring bush happenings to the attention of urban Alaska as well as Urban Alaska to the bush.
- 4) To afford a vehicle for the opinion leaders of the state to use as a forum on the issues of the day and to transmit these thoughts instantaneously to all Alaskans: Rural and Urban.
- 5) To bring the capital closer to the people and the people closer to the capital.

METHOD:

- 1) Interconnect via satellite, existing stations so that regular programs as well as the occasional special event can be transmitted simultaneously:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Anchorage* | Kenai* |
| Barrow KBRW | Ketchikan* |
| Bethel KYUK | Kodiak* |
| Dillingham KDLG | Kotzebue KOTZ |
| Fairbanks KUAC | Petersburg* |
| Juneau KT00 | Wrangell* |

- 2) Establish a radio central in existing space at the AEBC in Anchorage which would gather material from all of the stations, edit and re-transmit.

COST:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Studio Equipment: | \$15,000 |
| Transmission Lines, | |
| RCA via satellite | 5,000 per yr. |
| Staff, Administration, | |
| materials | 75,000 per yr. |
| | <u>\$150,000</u> |

*stations initiated by leg. intent

SIGNON!

... an irregular newsletter whose frequency is on the state of public broadcasting

EDUCATIONAL
BROADCASTING
COMMISSION
ALASKA 

Feb. '76 Volume 1 Issue 5

AN ALASKAN RADIO NETWORK:

WHO? Produced and/or contracted for by the AEBC which was enabled by legislators to be and which is politically insulated. AEBC a part of Department of Education.

WHAT? A radio central studio capable of receiving, editing, and distributing the best of National Public Radio, Radio Canada International, and existing Alaska Public Funded Radio Stations costing not more than \$150,000 per year.

WHERE? The product is as near as the nearest radio set with Radio Central located in the existing office space leased by the AEBC in Anchorage.

WHEN? To start September 1, 1976, with service consisting of not less than 4, nor more than 12 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- WHY?
- 1) To interconnect Alaskans with other Alaskans with an instantaneous and intimate sound.
 - 2) To make the Capital City as close as the nearest radio set and to let rural Alaska hear a portion of the information made available now to urban Alaska.
 - 3) To bring sound reports of the happenings of the nation and world, relevant to Alaska, to all Alaskans.
 - 4) To bolster and assist all distant Alaska stations with a skeletal news, educational and informational format.
 - 5) To have an Alaskan voice available to transmit to other state and national networks and stations.

"... Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter . . ." Thomas Jefferson

"... Bethel receives no DAILY NEWS, no FAIRBANKS MINERS, no SOUTHEAST EMPIRES, and only 26 DAILY TIMES on an average day when any papers at all get there. The Bethel service area purchases 235 TUNDRA DRUMS (local paper) every two weeks. It takes up to 10 days for a TUNDRA DRUMS to get from Bethel to Kwethluk (17 miles away) through the mail. KYUK broadcasts three expanded and 5 capsule news shows per day and there are over 5,000 radio sets in the coverage area . . ." Jim Croll, former KYUK Mgr.

FIRST DRAFT: ALASKA PUBLIC RADIO NETWORK 2/3/76-JGC

NEED:TO INTERCONNECT ALASKANS.....

RADIO CENTRAL:A STUDIO TO PRODUCE RADIO ALASKA.....

NPR - RCI:NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS FROM THE
BEST OF AMERICA AND CANADIAN PUBLIC RADIO...

ALASKAN
PRODUCTION:TO LET ALASKANS KNOW WHAT ALASKA IS

PROGRAMS:SUGGESTED CONTENT AND FORMAT.....

COSTS: STUDIO CAPITALIZATION \$15,000

ANNUAL OPERATIONS:

PRODUCTION 88,000

INTERCONNECTION PER MONTH
TARIFF TO RCA:

RADIO CENTRAL TO BASE STATIONS-

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| 4 HRS. PER DAY | 1175.79 |
| 8 HRS. PER DAY | 2149.60 |
| 12 HRS. PER DAY | 3123.81 |

→ TOTAL COST BETWEEN \$120,000 TO \$150,000 PER YEAR.

REGIONAL NETWORK:TO PROVIDE HOMOGENITY OF PROGRAMMING
TO DISTINCT REGIONS VIA NETWORK AND MINI
RADIO TRANSMITTERS.....

SIGNOONI

... an irregular newsletter whose frequency is on the state of public broadcasting

EDUCATIONAL
BROADCASTING
COMMISSION
ALASKA

February 3, 1976

FIRST DRAFT: PROPOSAL FOR ALASKA PUBLIC RADIO NETWORK

A FORMAT WITH PROJECTED COSTS.

/JGC

Even before the satellite was realized as an eventuality, there had been talk of interconnecting the state by way of a radio network. What radio lacked in terms of impact and glamour, it made up in efficiency. Educators, politicians, and agencies regularly come to the AEBC offices to find out what we can do to carry their message to the people. Since I have been here, (September 2, 1975) I have been approached by Alaska Legal Services, Rural Cap, Alaska Humanities Forum, Capital Site Selection, Consumer Research and the Marine Life Group from U. of A. to tell how their particular message can be most efficiently carried to rural and urban Alaska..

During and following the appropriation of the \$5,000,000 for Earth Stations, the AEBC has received inquiries from villagers regarding what will be carried and when it can be expected at the village level.

There are many who still think that with the construction of an earth station they will at once have radio and television.

Historically there has been no continuing tie of urban and rural Alaska with any mass media.

Urban newspapers have very little if any circulation at the village level.

Commercial stations (Midnight Sun and Northern Television) have joint ownership and yet they do not find it economically viable to produce their news programs in a manner to give live coverage on a regular basis between their commonly owned facilities in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau. For example, Juneau does not regularly hear voices from Anchorage and Fairbanks, etc. Further, because of the lack of an economic base there is no commercial radio service in a large portion of Alaska.

Two notable exceptions are Nome and Kodiak. Nome has had excellent commercial service for some time and the two stations (KNOH and KICY) compete healthfully in their news programming and they also feed news to stations, both urban and rural and both commercial and public, whenever a major event occurs in that area. KVOK in Kodiak has not been on the air very long, but it offers a lot of network material to its audience. The basic network in rural Alaska is the Armed Forces

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Radio Network.

The AFRN has de-commissioned its transmitter at Bethel and is phasing out in Barrow because the public stations carry portions of the network and render the service which the military formerly achieved. The military is pleased because KYUK and KBRW operate at a higher power and it saves them the cost of an engineer. The greatest benefit AFRN affords to the public stations is commercial network coverage of sporting events and national and world news. The AFRN makes no effort to originate broadcasts from rural Alaska. They merely feed a network from their studios in Anchorage.

Those who have communicated with this office regarding a need for an Alaska Public Radio Network sum it up this way:

- 1) There is no facility which can interconnect both rural and urban Alaska and it is important for the state to tie its various sovereignties together.
- 2) A conduit is needed through which information, news and educational material can be dispersed throughout the state instantaneously.
- 3) Too much of the happenings reported and the opinions expressed originate in urban Alaska and rural Alaska can not offer reports to the cities.

The A.E.B.C. asked me on December 16th to come forward with a proposal that had originally been informally discussed with Bob Walp and Marvin Weatherly.

The original concept was a 'pilot radio network' and it is in two phases; Interconnection of existing services and implementation of mini radio transmitters at the sites of the earth stations.

Using space available at 308 G street (this space is already being paid for) a studio would be built. \$10,000 worth of capital expenses would be necessary. This facility would be capable of receiving, recording, editing and replaying programs for all of the receiving base stations. Also, this facility would receive from the base stations program material via phone lines. If the program is well received, regular feed lines would be ordered from base stations to radio central. One of the first would be a line from Juneau to Anchorage for legislative sessions. Radio central would pick up signals from the lower 48 for NPR programs.

R E F U C O N C L U S I O N

RADIO
CENTRAL

The programming content will be from a combination of three sources:

- 1) NPR - RCI (Canada Radio International)
- 2) Public Radio Network
- 3) Regional Base Stations

Attached is the NPR program schedule. Most important on this list is the 90 minute daily (Mon-Fri) "ALL THINGS CONSIDERED". This is fed EST at 5:00 pm and will be carried live at noon Anchorage time. This is a comprehensive program combining hard spot with features in a manner attractive enough to have won the Peabody award. Other shows of relevance would be "Options", "National Town Meeting", "American Issues Forum" and BBC "Science Magazine". A satellite feed on these programs is necessary because of the timeliness of them and it is no more expensive to get radio live than it is to get it via tape. However, many of the NPR programs are available only on tape because their engineering department feels certain music shows have better fidelity on tape than via satellite. Taped programs would include "Folk Festival U.S.A.", "NPR Recital Hall" and "Folk Music and Bernstein".

There is no reason that Alaska Public Radio Network would have to be limited only to NPR. Radio Canada has many features that would have great relevance to Alaskans which include their native series. They have already agreed to permit our using their programs at no cost. These could be edited in at Radio Central and dispersed throughout the network.

Alaskan's would benefit by importing events from national and international sources, but the major thrust and energy would be through originations by, from and for Alaskans. This would be done by professional coverage of those things Alaskans are currently involved in accomplishing. Though this portion of the program schedule would be fed from Radio Central in Anchorage, it would be created, conceived and produced every where in the state. The reasons radio central are in Anchorage is due to geography and every effort must be made to involve radio talent at all of the public stations to make them a part of it.

The staff necessary to program 12 hours per day 7 days per week would be 4 reporters and 1 traffic director.

Following would be programs this 5 person staff would produce.

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Programs produced:

- 1) Two thirty minute comprehensive Alaska News programs per day - Mon thru Fri - 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM.
- 2) "Talk-Talk" - once per week a thirty minute discussion alternating with Station Managers and News Directors from base stations. A question and discussion of the weeks events.
- 3) Headlines on the half hour highlighting the significant happenings of the day to be covered fully on Alaska News Pgms.
- 4) "Scope" - an opinion program to be at the discretion of a wide range of public minded speakers representing every diverse point of view with opportunity for any who disagree to also be aired.
- 5) SPECIALS: Major legislative hearings and agency hearings that have state wide appeal. (Capitol Move - OCS development - DOT: yes? no? - Oil Reserve Taxation - Why One Air Carrier for Juneau, Kotzebue, Barrow? - Malpractice - Wolf Kill - Sin and Corruption in Alaska? - ETC.) These specials would be produced from actual taped interviews of a broad spectrum of people who have diverse opinions and no conclusions would be reached by the producer; merely a representation of many opinion makers arguments.

In all of these undertakings, staff at the base stations would get interviews, read copy and file it to Radio Central in order to put the whole thing together.

In addition to programs produced by the Public Radio Network, time would be made available for other groups (Alaska Legal Services - Humanities Forum - Itinerant Nurses - etc.) who would produce informational pieces to be scheduled on a format similar to commercials on a privately owned network. Research has shown that people learn better from short announcements, particularly if they are one voice and without production techniques involving music and special effects, that are repeated many times at different times over a period of time, than by one long lecture.

The projected cost to set up and operate would be as follows:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Studio Equipment (one time capitalization) | \$15,000 |
| News Director | 16,000 |
| 3 reporters @ \$14,000 | 42,000 |
| 1 traffic director | 12,000 |
| Stringer fees to base stations | <u>18,000</u> |

one time cost: \$15,000

annual cost 88,000

Interconnection : _____

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For national and world information the network would draw from NPR and Radio Canada International and for Alaska News the network would get 'raw interviews' and some 'self contained' material from the Base Stations. This material would be used to produce programs at radio central to feed the network.

REGIONAL

In addition, the network would be so structured that the base stations could servie mini radio stations at the location of satellite ground stations.

SUB

NETWORK

The current operative and funded stations in the state are as follows:

A
N
D

- KBRW - Barrow
- KDLG - Dillingham
- KOTZ - Kotzebue
- KTOO - Juneau
- KUAC - Fairbanks
- KYUK - Bethel

MINI RADIO

Stations which have the initial appropriation and are being developed are as follows:

- KMXT - Kodiak
- KRBD - Ketchikan
- Soldotna - Kenai
- Anchorage

Each of these would be Base Stations and would be capable of feeding mini radio stations which have no studios. The mini radio stations would be 'slave stations'.

One such network has been informally discussed as the ideal one to use as a pilot network.

The base station would be KDLG in Dillingham to serve the Aleutian chain mini radio stations. KDLG would program material uniquely relevant to that area which would not necessarily be relevant to the entire state. Detailed coverage of fishing problems, regulations etc. could be fed to the mini radio stations that would have no interest in Barrow. We have asked RCA for interconnect figures to feed that system.

The following villages will have ground stations in operation in FY 1977. These villages have no radio service and are all on the Aleutian Chain:

- ' Pilot Point Perryville
- Meshik Nelson Lagoon
- Chignik Lagoon Belkofski
- Chignik Lake False Pass
- Ivanof Nikolski

The monthly charge (an 'asking price' which some consider not a final price and as quoted by RCA) would be \$1,322.64 per month to feed this mini radio network from Anchorage.

There would be an additional charge to set up the switching capability to permit Dillingham and/or Kodiak to feed this group. The \$1,322.64 would feed the Alaska Radio Network from Radio Central in Anchorage to all of these villages.

A capitalization for radio transmitters at this ^{type} areas would have to be considered. The following quotes were made 2/2/76 by Bennett Consulting Engineering for transmitters and antennas for unattended facilities:

| | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------|
| 10 watt am | \$750.00 | up to 10 miles |
| 10 watt fm | 3000.00 | up to 15 miles |
| 50 watt am | 2500.00 | up to 20 miles |
| 250 watt fm | 7500.00 | up to 30 miles |

These costs are for equipment only and there should be an estimated \$500.00 per location for legal and engineering fees in order to get FCC clearance.

Any site in the state could be served by one of the above and the considerations as to which facility would be indicated are topography, size of the village, distance the ground station is from the village and sky wave interference unique to each area.

The first purpose of a mini radio capability is to afford remote areas at least one way connection with the rest of the state. (West of Unalaska, Radio Moscow is the best received! - There are those who feel Alaskan Radio would make people feel more Alaskan.)

The purpose of a Regional Radio Network is to afford all in a given political, ethnic and economic region, homogeneity in programming.

MINI
RADIO
&
REGIONAL
SUB
NETWORK

May 11, 1976

SB 696

TELEGRAM

ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

PHONE: 586-6440

#CJUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

3353 NL ANCHORAGE ALASKA 159 05-36 3530P ADT

PMS REP AL OSTERBACK . 0727

JUN

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT WE ARE IN SUPPORT OF HCS SENATE BILL NO. 690 CREATING REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER AREAS AND BOARDS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. HOWEVER THERE IS ONE DISCREPANCY RELATING TO THE REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER BOUNDARIES. THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS SHOULD BE WITH THE SOUTHCENTRAL AREA AND NOT KODIAK. WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO TIES IN COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORTATION OR DIRECT MAIL SERVICE. SERVICES IN THE PAST WHICH WERE SUPPOSE TO HAVE BEEN SERVICED OUT OF KODIAK NEVER GOT TO THE ALEUTIANS BUT STAYED IN THE KODIAK AREA.

1976 MAY 7 AM 2 30

ONLY WITH THE RECOMMENDED CHANGE WILL WE THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT HCS SENATE BILL NO. 690.

LARRY SHAI SHNIKOFF
JOHN H. SHELLIKOFF
SEWARD BRANDELL
CLAUDE KUZAKIN, SR
TERENTY BUTEKEN
SARAH MERCULIEF
NICK BERESKIN
ANNA SHAI SHNIKOFF
ALEX N. DUSKIN SR
DARIEN HOFF
MARYANN HANAK
SARAH VIRG-IN
FRANCIS MARION HARRIS
MARIE SIPARY
MAXIUM BUTERIN
MARINA GUNDERSEN
GILDA SHELLIKOFF
ZENIA BENDIXEN
DELLA A BEAK
IRENE A MOLLER
SANDRA F KUDRIN
BERTHA KUZAKIN
ANGIE GROMOFF
DAVID OSTERBACK
ARLENE NELSON
SHERRY SPITLER

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
FISCAL NOTE

Second Session - Ninth Legislature

I. REQUEST

Bill No. SB 696

Title: Act making a special appropriation to the Governor's Office of Telecommunications

Requested by: Legislative Finance

Date: 3-10-76

Return Date Requested: ASAP

Agency: Office of Telecommunications

Program: Satellite Television Project

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Budget Request Unit(s) Affected: Office of Telecommunications

A. EXPENDITURES: (Thousands of dollars)

| OBJECT | FY 76 | FY 77 | FY 78 | FY 79 | FY 80 | FY 81 |
|--------------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 100 PERSONAL SERVICES | | 0 | | | | |
| 200 TRAVEL | | 0 | | | | |
| 300 CONTRACTUAL | | 1,020.0 | | | | |
| 400 COMMODITIES | | 0 | | | | |
| 500 EQUIPMENT | | 480.0 | | | | |
| 600 LAND & STRUCTURES | | 0 | | | | |
| 700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC. | | 0 | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 1,500.0 | | | | |

B. FUNDING: (Thousands of dollars)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|---------|--|--|--|--|
| GENERAL FUND | | 1,500.0 | | | | |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | | 0 | | | | |
| OTHER | | 0 | | | | |

C. POSITIONS:

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PERMANENT/TEMPORARY | / | / | / | / | / | / |
| MAN MONTHS (P./T.) | / | / | / | / | / | / |

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

- A. Assumptions:
- 1) that the Office of Telecommunications has the authority to contract with any other State agency or private contractor for assistance with the project.
 - 2) that RCA Alascom provides transponder services for \$500,000 per year and for that amount delivers the video signals to the toll centers in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau.
 - 3) that the commercial networks and PBS make programming available at the stateside delay center.

IV. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Satellite Television Project Summary

V. DATE: 11 March 1976

PREPARED BY: *George Yonow*

Original: Legislative Finance
cc: Budget and Management
Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

SATELLITE TELEVISION PROJECT

This project will enable us to satisfy immediate demands at a minimum cost and to obtain the experience necessary to establish policies that would encourage the development of a stable, self-supporting television system which will meet the needs of the rural areas, be of value to the commercial operators, and be available for education and social service.

Bush

1. Purchase TV receive equipment for 24 small earth stations.
\$10,000 each = \$240,000.
2. Purchase TV distribution equipment for 24 rural villages.
\$10,000 each = \$240,000
3. Provide 5 hours/day of TV transmission to bush stations plus educational programming.
 - a. live
 - b. from lower 48 delay center
 - c. from Alaska programming center

Urban

1. Make transponder available to broadcasters when not transmitting to the bush. Two TV channels can be transmitted simultaneously into large earth stations. If this mode of operation were used 16 hours per day, 32 hours of programming could be imported for urban broadcasters, i.e., 8 hours per network each day.
 - a. urban broadcasters make delay arrangements
 - b. urban broadcasters work out schedule arrangements among themselves

Urban/Bush

1. Programs could be broadcast real time to both urban and bush locations on single channel per transponder operation.

Most origination for bush would come from stateside delay center, with supplemental or occasional broadcasts originated from Alaskan stations.

Preliminary Budget Estimate

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| full-time non backed up transponder | \$500,000 |
| 24 earth station receivers, 10k each | 240,000 |
| 24 mini transmitters, 10k each | 240,000 |
| delay center and miscellaneous charges | 520,000 |
| | <u>\$1.5 million</u> |

Notes

For part-time transponder for bush transmission

1 year at 5 hours/day = 1825 hours

hourly rate: \$800 hr x 1825 = \$1.46 million

conclusion--cheaper to lease full-time transponder at
500k per year

Earth station receivers are budgeted at 10k each installed

Mini TV transmitters are budgeted at 10k each installed.

This includes applications and license fees.

\$520,000 for delay center and miscellaneous charges allows
for operating expenses of \$60 per hour on the basis of 24
hours per day.

Return to S.F.C.

SENATE JOURNAL

March 9, 1976

The Honorable Chancy Croft
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99811

SB 696

Dear Mr. President:

It is the intent of the Senate Health, Education, and Social Service Committee in introducing and passing Senate Bill 696 to provide a pilot satellite television project for the State of Alaska.

The \$1.5 million appropriation is designed to provide a full-time satellite transponder leased for one year. This will provide one channel of television for selected villages, and bring live satellite coverage to the urban areas. The transponder may also be used to implement Health and Education video services to Alaska.

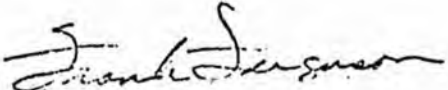
The appropriation goes to the Governor's Office of Telecommunications (GOT). The GOT is responsible for the completion of the project, however they have the authority to contract with any other state agency or private contractor for assistance with the project.

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This pilot program will offer the opportunity to determine the best technical and administrative procedure for a state-wide program. The GOT shall report to the next legislative session their recommendations for the implementation of a state-wide satellite television system.

Sincerely,


Frank R. Ferguson, Chairman
Senate Health, Education, and
Social Services Committee

SATELLITE TELEVISION PROJECT

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 - b. from lower 48 delay center
 - c. from Alaska programming center

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 - b. urban broadcasters work out schedule arrangements among themselves

Urban/Bush

1. Programs could be broadcast real time to both urban and bush locations on single channel per transponder operation.

Most origination for bush would come from stateside delay center, with supplemental or occasional broadcasts originated from Alaskan stations.

Preliminary Budget Estimate

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| full-time non backed up transponder | \$500,000 |
| 24 earth station receivers, 10k each | 240,000 |
| 24 mini transmitters, 10k each | 240,000 |
| delay center and miscellaneous charges | 520,000 |
| | <u>\$1.5 million</u> |

Notes

For part-time transponder for bush transmission

1 year at 5 hours/day = 1825 hours

hourly rate: \$800 hr x 1825 = \$1.46 million

conclusion--cheaper to lease full-time transponder at
500k per year

Earth station receivers are budgeted at 10k each installed

Mini TV transmitters are budgeted at 10k each installed.

This includes applications and license fees.

\$520,000 for delay center and miscellaneous charges allows
for operating expenses of \$60 per hour on the basis of 24
hours per day.

Introduced: 3/9/76
Referred: Health, Education
and Social Services and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 696

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Office
7 of the Governor, office of telecommunications; and
8 providing for an effective date."

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

10 * Section 1. The sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from the general fund
11 to the Office of the Governor, office of telecommunications for a satellite
12 television project to demonstrate the viability of satellite television in
13 the state.

14 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect July 1, 1976.
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