

COMMITTEE REPORT

SENATE

m 3/10/76

Mr. President:

Date 3/15/76

The Committee on Finance has had SB 696  
spec. approp. - office of telecommunications  
under consideration. A Majority of the members of the Committee

- recommends it DO PASS
- recommends it DO NOT PASS
- recommends it DO PASS WITH ATTACHED AMENDMENT(S)
- recommends it BE REPLACED WITH CS FOR \_\_\_\_\_ AND THAT  
CS FOR \_\_\_\_\_ DO PASS
- "and" recommends it BE REFERRED TO THE \_\_\_\_\_  
COMMITTEE
- reports it back WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION
- "other"

Members signing the Majority report:

<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>NO REC</u>	_____
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>NO REC</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Members NOT concurring in the Majority report:

_____	recommends:	_____
_____	recommends:	_____
_____	recommends:	_____
_____	recommends:	_____
_____	recommends:	_____

[Signature] Chairman

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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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				
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,500.0</b>				

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 Y...*

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.

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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.

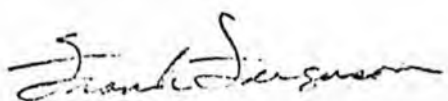
The appropriation goes to the Governor's Office of Telecommunications (GOT). The GOT is responsible for the completion of the project, however they have the authority to contract with any other state agency or private contractor for assistance with the project.

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.

Sincerely,

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