

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILES 8672  
1551 SCOMM 58: HOUSE SPEC. COMM. ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, 1987-1988/8

Introduced: 1/19/87  
Referred: House Special Committee on  
Telecommunications and Labor & Commerce

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BOUCHER

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 23

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to reduced rates and discounted  
7 service for low-income telecommunication customers."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 42.05.301 is amended by adding a new subsection to  
10 read:

11 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a public utility may  
12 initiate a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecom-  
13 munication services for the benefit of its low-income customers. The  
14 commission may not require a utility to provide a discounted service  
15 or reduced rate under this subsection. The commission may not require  
16 a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative  
17 burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the  
18 utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate.

19 \* Sec. 2. AS 42.05.391 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

20 (e) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a public utility may  
21 initiate a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecom-  
22 munication services for the benefit of its low-income customers. The  
23 commission may not require a utility to provide a discounted service  
24 or reduced rate under this subsection. The commission may not require  
25 a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative  
26 burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the  
27 utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate.

# STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## FISCAL NOTE

### REQUEST

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: "An Act relating to deregulation of  
 cable television  
 Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Version: HB 97 and SB 92  
 Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: Comm. and Econ. Dev.  
 BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Components: \_\_\_\_\_

### EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING         | FY 87 | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TRAVEL            |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| CONTRACTUAL       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| SUPPLIES          |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| EQUIPMENT         |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| LAND & STRUCTURES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS    |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| MISCELLANEOUS     |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TOTAL OPERATING   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| CAPITAL           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| REVENUE           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |

### FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

|               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| GENERAL FUND  |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| FEDERAL FUNDS |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| OTHER         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TOTAL         | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

### POSITIONS:

|           |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| FULL-TIME | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| PART-TIME |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TEMPORARY |     |     |     |     |     |     |

### ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

If this legislation is adopted, the decrease in regulatory activity will reduce a relatively insignificant amount of agency workload. Given the nearly 25% reduction in staff resources already absorbed by the Alaska Public Utilities Commission over the past three fiscal years, a further reduction in staffing would not be expected as a result of the changes proposed in this bill.

Prepared by: T.S. Moninski II, Executive Director

Phone: 276-6222

Division: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Commissioner: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/22/87

Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)
- Senate Secretary

# **CORRECTION**

**THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED  
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

2-17-87

Meeting

Introduced: 1/19/87  
Referred: House Special Committee on  
Telecommunications and Labor & Commerce

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BOUCHER

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 5

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication  
services."

7

8

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

9

\* Section 1. AS 42.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10

Sec. 42.05.145. TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION POLICY. A utility

11

that provides local exchange or interexchange telecommunication ser-

12

vice in the state affects the public interest. Regulation of these

13

utilities shall, consistent with this chapter, seek to

14

(1) maintain and advance the efficiency, availability, and

15

affordability of universal communications service including voice,

16

video, and data communications;

17

(2) ensure that charges to customers for communication

18

services are reasonable; and

19

(3) ensure that rates for noncompetitive communication

20

services do not subsidize the competitive ventures of communication

21

companies.

Introduced: 1/19/87  
Referred: House Special Committee on  
Telecommunications and Labor & Commerce

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BOUCHER

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 23

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to reduced rates and discounted  
7 service for low-income telecommunication customers."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 42.05.301 is amended by adding a new subsection to  
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11 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a public utility may  
12 initiate a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecom-  
13 munication services for the benefit of its low-income customers. The  
14 commission may not require a utility to provide a discounted service  
15 or reduced rate under this subsection. The commission may not require  
16 a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative  
17 burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the  
18 utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate.

19 \* Sec. 2. AS 42.05.391 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

20 (e) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a public utility may  
21 initiate a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecom-  
22 munication services for the benefit of its low-income customers. The  
23 commission may not require a utility to provide a discounted service  
24 or reduced rate under this subsection. The commission may not require  
25 a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative  
26 burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the  
27 utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate.

**STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE**

Bill Number: PA 97 and SB 92

**REQUEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: "An Act relating to deregulation of cable television"

Agency Affected: Comm. and Econ. Dev.  
BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Components: \_\_\_\_\_

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

| OPERATING         | FY 87 | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TRAVEL            |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| CONTRACTUAL       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| SUPPLIES          |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| EQUIPMENT         |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| LAND & STRUCTURES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS    |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| MISCELLANEOUS     |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TOTAL OPERATING   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| CAPITAL           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| REVENUE           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |

**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

|               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| GENERAL FUND  |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| FEDERAL FUNDS |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| OTHER         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TOTAL         | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

**POSITIONS:**

|           |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| FULL-TIME | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| PART-TIME |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TEMPORARY |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)**

If this legislation is adopted, the decrease in regulatory activity will reduce a relatively insignificant amount of agency workload. Given the nearly 25% reduction in staff resources already absorbed by the Alaska Public Utilities Commission over the past three fiscal years, a further reduction in staffing would not be expected as a result of the changes proposed in this bill.

Prepared by: T.S. Moninski II, Executive Director

Phone: 276-6222

Division: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]

Date: 2/24/91

Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance

Legislative Sponsor

Requestor

Office of Management and Budget

Impacted Agency(ies)

Senate Secretary

Introduced: 2/2/87  
Referred: House Special Committee  
on Telecommunications and Labor &  
Commerce

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY TAYLOR

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 97

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to deregulating cable television."

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

8 \* Section 1. AS 42.05.711(k) is amended to read:

9 (k) A utility which furnishes cable television service is exempt  
10 from the provisions of this chapter [OTHER THAN AS 42.05.221 - 42.05.-  
11 281] unless 25 percent of the subscribers petition the commission for  
12 regulation.  
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2-26-87

Meeting

Original sponsor: Boucher

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 5 (Telecommunications)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication  
7 services."

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 42.05 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 42.05.145. TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION POLICY. A utility  
11 that provides local exchange or interexchange telecommunication ser-  
12 vice in the state affects the public interest. Regulation of these  
13 utilities shall, consistent with this chapter, seek to

14 (1) maintain and advance the efficiency, availability, and  
15 affordability of universal basic telecommunications service;

16 (2) ensure that charges to customers for telecommunication  
17 services are reasonable; and

18 (3) ensure that revenue earned from noncompetitive telecom-  
19 munication services is not used to subsidize the competitive ventures  
20 of telecommunication companies.

# STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## FISCAL NOTE

**REQUEST:**

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: "An Act relating to regulation of telecommunication services"Sponsor: Boucher

Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Version: CSHB 5(Tele)Publish Date: HOUSE 3/4/87

Commerce &amp; Econ. Dev.

Agency Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:** (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING         | FY 87 | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERS. SERVICES    |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TRAVEL            |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| CONTRACTUAL       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| SUPPLIES          |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| EQUIPMENT         |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| LAND & STRUCTURES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS    |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| MISCELLANEOUS     |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TOTAL OPERATING   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| CAPITAL           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| REVENUE           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |

**FUNDING:** (Thousands of Dollars)

|               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| GENERAL FUND  |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| FEDERAL FUNDS |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| OTHER         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TOTAL         | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

**POSITIONS:**

|           |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| FULL-TIME | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| PART-TIME |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TEMPORARY |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill proposes a basis statement of telecommunications policy and is not expected to have any fiscal impact on this agency.

Prepared by: T.S. Moninski, II, Executive DirectorPhone: 276-6222Division: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]Date: 2/26/87Agency: Commerce and Economic Development

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance

Legislative Sponsor

Requestor

Office of Management and Budget

Impacted Agency(ies)

Senate Secretary

Original sponsor: Boucher

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

2

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 23 (Telecommunications)

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to reduced rates and discounted  
service for low-income telecommunication customers."

8

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

9 \* Section 1. AS 42.05.301 is amended by adding a new subsection to  
10 read:

11 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a public utility may  
12 propose a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecom-  
13 munication services for the benefit of its low-income customers. The  
14 commission may not require a utility to provide a discounted service  
15 or reduced rate under this subsection. The commission may not require  
16 a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative  
17 burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the  
18 utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate.

19 \* Sec. 2. AS 42.05.391 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

20 (c) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a public utility may  
21 propose a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecom-  
22 munication services for the benefit of its low-income customers. The  
23 commission may not require a utility to provide a discounted service  
24 or reduced rate under this subsection. The commission may not require  
25 a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative  
26 burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the  
27 utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate.

# STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## FISCAL NOTE

**REQUEST:**

Bill Version: CSHB 25(Tele)

Publish Date: HOUSE 3/4/87

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: "An Act relating to reduced rates &amp; discounted service for low-income tele. customers"

Agency Affected: Dept. of Commerce & Econ. Dev.  
BRU: Alaska Public Utilities Commission

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Components: \_\_\_\_\_

Requestor: Becky Bear**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)**

| OPERATING         | FY 87 | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TRAVEL            |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| CONTRACTUAL       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| SUPPLIES          |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| EQUIPMENT         |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| LAND & STRUCTURES |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS    |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| MISCELLANEOUS     |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| TOTAL OPERATING   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| CAPITAL           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |
| REVENUE           | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   | -0-   |

**FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)**

|               |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| GENERAL FUND  |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| FEDERAL FUNDS |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| OTHER         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TOTAL         | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

**POSITIONS:**

|           |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| FULL TIME | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| PART-TIME |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| TEMPORARY |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)**

Although implementation of this proposed legislation could result in some new filings before this Commission, the number of proceedings should be fairly minimal and would not likely result in the need for additional fiscal resources.

Prepared by: T.S. Moninski, II, Executive DirectorPhone: 276-6222Division: Alaska Public Utilities CommissionDate: 2/26/87Approved by Commissioner: [Signature]Date: 2/26/87Agency: Commerce and Economic DevelopmentDistribution (by preparer): [Checkmark]

Legislative Finance

Legislative Sponsor

Requestor

Office of Management and Budget

Impacted Agency(ies)

Senate Secretary

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS (House)

HB 21, (cont'd)

14.17.170, whichever is greater. Additional state aid shall be obligated by the commissioner before June 30."

Effective July 1, 1987.

Introduced January 19 and referred to Health, Education & Social Services and Finance.

Hazardous  
Physical Agents  
in Workplace

HOUSE BILL NO. 22, by Reps. Pourchot, Boyer, Ellis, Davis, & Koponen. Identical to SB 24, page 12..

Introduced January 19 and referred to Labor & Commerce, and Finance.

Telecommuni-  
cations  
(discounts for  
low-income)

HOUSE BILL NO. 23, by Rep. Boucher. Amends the Alaska Public Utilities Commission Act, sections on discrimination in service and discrimination in rates (AS 42.05.301 & 391) by adding: "...a public utility may initiate a discounted service or a reduced rate for essential telecommunication services for the benefit of its low-income customers." Prohibits the Alaska Public Utilities Commission from requiring a utility to provide discounted service. Also adds: "The commission may not require a telephone utility to incur uncompensated costs or administrative burdens that are not recoverable through an approved tariff if the utility provides a discounted service or reduced rate." Does not provide for an effective date (becomes law 90 days after being signed by the Governor).

Introduced January 19 and referred to the House Special Committee on Telecommunications after establishment of the committee by HR 1, and then to Labor & Commerce.

Bail  
(remission  
after for-  
feiture)

HOUSE BILL NO. 24, by Reps. Boucher and Gruenberg. Adds to AS 12.30.060 (violation of release conditions that lead to forfeiture of bail): "(b) After entry of a judgment of forfeiture, the surety may apply to the court for a remission. If it appears that justice does not require the forfeiture, the court may grant the application and remit forfeiture, in whole or in part. The court may impose conditions of remission, including payment of the expenses incurred in the proceedings for the enforcement of the forfeiture and in securing the return of the defendant."

Does not provide for an effective date (becomes law 90 days after being signed by the Governor).

Introduced January 19 and referred to Judiciary.

Office of  
Equal Employ.  
Opportunity

HOUSE BILL NO. 25, by Rep. Martin. Expands the powers of of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity contained in AS 44.19.442(b) by adding that the Office may: "(2) require the division of personnel in the Department of Administration to purge records from an employee's personnel file if the records are the direct or indirect result of complaint of unlawful

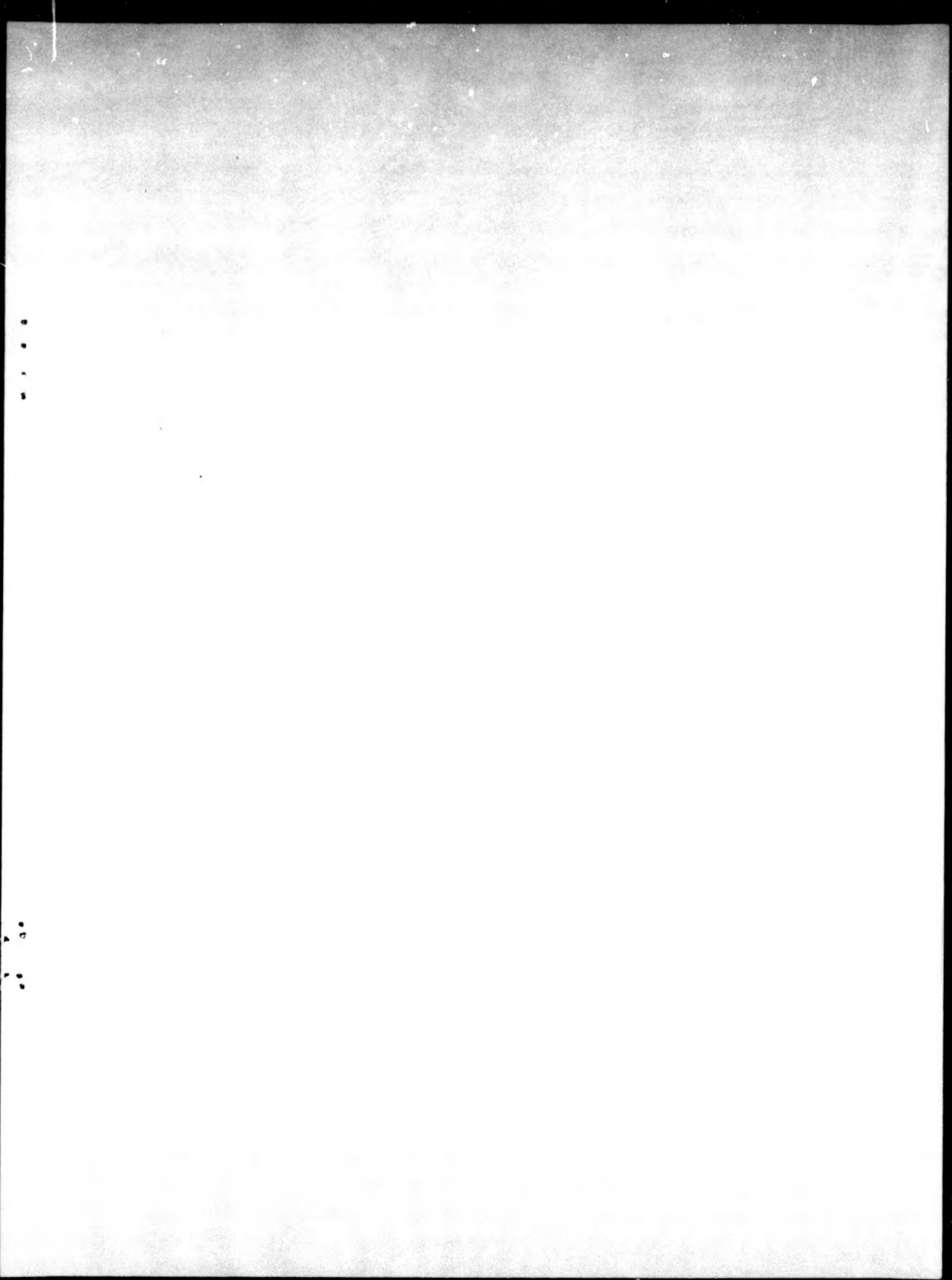
# The Future of State-Supported Broadcasting in Alaska

Final  
recommendations

to the  
House Special Committee  
on Telecommunications

by  
Larry L. Pearson

Assistant Professor  
Department of Journalism and Public Communications  
University of Alaska Anchorage



### **Committee Members**

Rep. H.A. "Red" Boucher,  
Chairman,

Rep. Bill Hudson,  
Vice Chairman,

Rep. Fran Ulmer

Rep. Fritz Pettyjohn

Rep. Virginia M. Collins

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# Executive Summary

This report is intended to provide the House Special Committee on Telecommunications with information so that it can help decide in the next few days the future of broadcast telecommunication in Alaska.

This report makes no recommendations about a level of support for broadcast telecommunication -- although it comes close to that. It does identify the main options and the central arguments relating to each of them. It also identifies what the author believes to be the two central -- and distinct -- policy questions that must be addressed in this debate:

1. Should the state maintain its commitment to assuring that all Alaskans have broadcast (as opposed to taped) radio and television service?
2. Should the state maintain its support of types of broadcast content that are not provided by the private sector?

The answers to these questions are political ones and therefore outside the scope of this report. It is the intent of this report to provide information that will promote better understanding of just what is at issue.

This report addresses one other issue: the policy-making process as it relates to telecommunication today. The state today has no telecommunication policy structure. The absence of such a structure made it difficult -- even impossible -- to collect information that was vital to this report. *The absence of such a structure made this report necessary.*

This report does make one recommendation:

That the State of Alaska establish an independent entity responsible for management and planning for all its telecommunication resources.

This recommendation is consistent with the committee's Information Resource Management Report and with HB 40, now before the committee.

This report is organized in three sections which are followed by several tables and, finally, an appendix that summarizes a private proposal for an alternative to state-supported broadcasting. The first section of the report addresses the issue of broadcast telecommunication management, the second looks from an economic perspective at the telecommunication options available to the state, and the third looks at telecommunication content and the ways it serves the state.

**"You've got to have a system of communication if you're going to have a modern state."**

-- Dr. William R. Wood, former president,  
University of Alaska; former mayor,  
Fairbanks

# Management of Alaska's Broadcast System

The state of Alaska has spent tens of millions of dollars in the last 20 years to help develop and maintain a complex broadcast system. Its investment in the Rural Alaska Television Network channel alone is estimated at more than \$60 million.

Yet, today, when the value of the system is being challenged, there is no one within state government who can speak for that system. There are only two places within state government where the broadcast system is treated as a whole. One place is the House Special Committee on Telecommunications. The other is the office of the Governor.

It appears to this observer that both are operating with inadequate information, and that this is a weakness of the system. No matter how well intentioned the people within it may be, the system as it exists today is incapable of supporting well-informed decision making about broadcasting in Alaska. It is fragmented and suffers from a lack of direction.

There is a real danger that this lack of direction will prove costly to the long-term interests of the state in the coming weeks.

The state government entities with responsibilities for broadcast telecommunication are:

- the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission,
- the Division of Telecommunications, Department of Administration,  
(formerly the Division of Telecommunications Services and the Division  
of Telecommunications Operations),
- the RATNET board of directors,
- the Office of Instructional Services, Department of Education,
- Instructional Telecommunications Services, University of Alaska.

The RATNET and APBC budgets are channeled through the Department of Administration. The Division of Telecommunications maintains state-owned equipment used by RATNET. In other respects, RATNET and the APBC are independent of DOA.

One of the ironies of the current debate over telecommunication is that the Department of Administration -- which controls the budget and maintains much of the equipment for state-supported broadcasting -- is advocating elimination of that funding. The Division of Telecommunications originally recommended elimination of the RATNET budget in an exercise conducted for then-Governor Bill Sheffield. The costs of RATNET are relatively fixed. To preserve its budget within a small division facing a 15 percent budget cut, the rest of the division's budget would have had to have been cut 40 percent.

DOA Deputy Commissioner John Andrews indicated in testimony before the DOA Budget Subcommittee in February and in a later interview that

elimination of broadcast funding is now recommended by the department because it believes the content of RATNET and public broadcasting is not important enough to deserve state support. The great flaw in that argument is that the Department of Administration is not charged with responsibility for the content of the channels it services. It made a content decision without having any expert advice available.

The Department of Administration, through its annual inventory of telecommunication services, has also provided the information on which many of the arguments in the current debate are based. This document has been cited by the chairman of the DOA Finance Subcommittee, the House Special Committee on Telecommunications, cable operators in their proposal for a substitute for RATNET, the Department of Administration itself, and this author.

Yet the accuracy of this document is questionable.

Its validity was challenged in a memo from APBC engineer Herb Holeman to the APBC executive director, and in teleconference testimony from around the state before the House Special Committee on Telecommunications. It appears from this that the DOA inventory is a highly optimistic estimate of radio coverage in Alaska.

The inventory contains information collected with limited resources by an agency that was given only general direction about what information to collect and how to go about it. As an agency charged mainly with maintenance of the telecommunications system, it has had little reason to do the more sophisticated analysis of coverage areas that was conducted by Holeman.

The inventory gives an inflated picture of broadcast coverage because it relies on the reports of station managers. It is in the interest of the commercial station managers to include in their service areas those communities where the signal is only occasionally and imperfectly received. Witnesses from several communities listed in the document as having both public and commercial radio testified that only public radio was available. These communities include Haines, Skagway, Angoon, Unalaska and McGrath. A witness from Angoon, for example, testified, "AM radio is available here only at certain times and only if we have good antennae."

Holeman's re-analysis was based on the FCC standards for determining service areas in Alaska. It found that 28 communities listed in the DOA inventory as receiving both public and commercial radio in actuality receive only public radio. More than 10,000 people who would appear from the inventory to have an alternative to public radio probably do not.

The only type of broadcasting that has been ably represented in the current debate is public broadcasting. The APBC director, Charles Northrip, has represented the interests of his client broadcast stations before the Legislature and is supporting a proposal that would turn the RATNET channel into a public broadcast channel.

RATNET and educational broadcasting have no such representation.

RATNET board members have testified individually before the House

Special Committee on Telecommunications, but there has been no organized defense of the RATNET mission. RATNET members see their duty as making program decisions about RATNET content. They take this duty very seriously; the minutes of their meetings are largely a record of lengthy discussions of whether particular programs are what RATNET viewers want. The RATNET board does not seem to have taken a larger view of the role of RATNET in Alaska, and there is no one to articulate such a view and present it on the board's behalf.

Similarly, the Department of Education and the University of Alaska have taken on responsibilities for instructional broadcasting throughout the state.

These responsibilities are part of the larger mission of both organizations. The efforts of both organizations to protect Learn Alaska when it was threatened in 1986 were weak and tardy, with the result that the only channel dedicated to the broadcast of instructional television was lost. The arguments that could have been presented in defense of instructional programming appear even now to be poorly understood by surviving members of the telecommunication community.

What is missing from the telecommunication infrastructure today -- and what is sorely needed -- is a place where telecommunication is treated as a whole. In the absence of such a place, what we have is a conglomeration of special interests that are by their actions weakening the structure they are a part of. Not all of them are unaware that this is happening. But they are powerless to do more than they are doing already. They are prisoners of a system which lacks a larger view.

**"The state doesn't have any telecommunications policy."**

-- Bill McCaughan, Anchorage  
Community College, former director  
of the Learn Alaska Network

# Options for Alaskan Broadcasting

What follows is a brief discussion of the options available to the state as it considers whether to continue to fund broadcasting and, if so, at what level. This discussion addresses mainly the economic questions. More detailed discussion of the social issues is contained in the later descriptions of the services provided by the various media.

The complexity of the problem is well illustrated by the number of options presented here. Almost all of them have been proposed at some time during the current debate. And, of course, if the state decides to fund broadcasting at some reduced level, there are a number of possible permutations of these options.

## **I. A statewide TV channel**

### **A. Keep RATNET in its present form at current funding level.**

This would cost the state \$2.8 million a year.

### **B. Keep RATNET in its present form with reduced funding.**

RATNET gets its programming free from commercial television and public television stations. There is no savings to be realized there. About 90 percent of the RATNET budget goes to ALASCOM to pay for transmission of the programming. There's some reason to believe a new contract at a somewhat reduced rate might be negotiated. The state now pays about \$900,000 for use of an Alascom transponder. Transponder space on other companies' satellites is now being sold for about \$600,000.

### **C. Substitute public broadcast content for RATNET content with reduced funding.**

The FCC allows carriers to transmit public broadcasting at lower than commercial rates. Public broadcasting in Alaska is willing to provide content for a statewide TV channel. The thought is that Alascom might be persuaded to provide public broadcasting content on a statewide channel for the same amount of money -- \$1 million -- that it would get as a termination payment if the channel were shut down.

The projected saving is \$1.8 million. There is some question that it could be that large. In actuality it would be someplace between that figure and \$380,000.

Even if Alascom didn't reduce its rates, there would be a savings of about \$380,000 because the \$329,800 for the Anchorage tape delay center and \$50,000 for RATNET travel would no longer be needed.

This proposal involves several assumptions:

- a. That Alascom would be willing to provide service for \$1 million. Alascom's actual costs -- which are unknown -- are the same regardless of content. They may or may not be more than \$1 million.
- b. That state funding for public television -- about \$3 million -- will be continued. If that funding is eliminated, or even sharply reduced, public television probably couldn't provide this service.
- c. That rural audiences will accept this programming as a substitute for the current programming mix.

#### **D. Eliminate budget for a statewide channel**

This would involve some costs. The most significant is a \$975,000 shutdown payment to Alascom. Others would be for retrieval and continued maintenance of equipment now located in 248 villages, and for provision in alternative ways of services regarded as essential.

Maintenance costs are not included in the \$2.8 million RATNET budget. Therefore it is not easy to see how much it will cost the state to maintain equipment in 248 villages that will no longer be used. But this cost is included in the FY '88 budget as part of the budget of DOA's Division of Telecommunications. Maintenance costs for more than 90 state-owned earth stations are said to be negligible; the costs for 248 RATNET transmitters are estimated at \$1,000 apiece annually (a significant portion of this cost is for travel to the sites). In addition to the RATNET transmitters, Learn Alaska transmitters remain in most villages (they are being removed as technicians visit communities to work on other equipment). Thus it appears that about 450 transmitters will continue to be maintained. Since they would no longer be operating, maintenance costs should be minimal once they have been prepared for storage.

RATNET is part of the statewide emergency broadcasting network and was scheduled to soon become the means of alerting the radio stations within the network in statewide emergencies. Costs of providing a substitute for it are unknown, but the director of the telecommunications division said they "would not be trivial." Before RATNET, 100 of the 248 villages it serves had single-sideband receivers for emergency messages. Many of these are still in the villages and some of them have been maintained. The cost of

re-establishing single-sideband service for those 100 villages is estimated at \$30,000. The cost of extending such service to another 148 villages is not known. There would also, of course, be maintenance costs. Other solutions might prove more economical than restoration of single-sideband service.

There would be some economic impact on the commercial television stations that provide programming for it. These stations provide programming on condition that advertisements be retained. This allows the stations to charge advertisers more for those ads that will be shown on RATNET as well as on the originating station. The general manager of the Anchorage TV station which covers the Iditarod said coverage would be sharply reduced if it could no longer be shown on a statewide channel. He said the Anchorage market is too small to meet the costs of the extensive coverage his station now provides.

Thus, the shutdown of RATNET would necessitate one-time and continuing costs. It was not possible for this investigator to determine in the time available how close these costs might come to the \$2.8 million budget for a fully funded RATNET channel.

There are no other short-term options. Private industry could not provide statewide television service by the start of the next fiscal year. Even in the long run, private industry could not provide statewide service without state assistance. It appears that the cost to Alaska of a privately operated statewide service would be much greater than the cost of the present RATNET service (see Appendix A, "The North Star Concept").

There has been some discussion of turning over state-owned facilities to villages so that they could provide community access programming. This would not be a viable substitute for a statewide channel, and would involve substantial costs for transfer of FCC licenses, purchase and maintenance of equipment, and training of users. Community-access programming could eventually become an important component of a statewide channel, however.

## **II. Public television**

### **A. Maintain funding at its current level.**

The cost to the state would be \$2.1 million for the three stations that receive state money through the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. An additional \$600,000 goes to the University of Alaska for KUAC-TV in Fairbanks. The KUAC-TV funding is not dependent on whether the APBC budget is approved.

### **B. Continue funding, but at a reduced level.**

The key question here is: How much does it cost to operate a public

TV station in Alaska? The 1987 operating budgets ranged from \$1,093,100 for KYUK-TV in Bethel to \$2,461,100 for KAKM-TV in Anchorage. The Bethel station was most dependent on state support -- it got 62 percent of its income from the state -- while Anchorage was least dependent on the state -- it got 31 percent of its income from that source.

A good answer to the question would require close analysis of each station. Costs may vary greatly depending on the costs and condition of its physical plant and equipment. Local variations in salaries may be expected. (The number of full-time TV employees ranges from 16 at KTOO to 25 at KAKM. The number of volunteers ranges from 32 -- some of whom help with the radio rather than the TV station -- at KYUK to 200 at KAKM.) The amount of locally originated programming is another factor as is long-term contracts for other programming.

If every station was to be assured an operating income of \$1.1 million, the state would need to contribute somewhat more than \$1 million for the three TV stations funded through the APBC, compared with the \$2.1 million they received in 1987. (An exact estimate of the state funding necessary is difficult to arrive at because federal money is provided only if certain requirements are met. These include income of \$300,000 from other sources, a minimum of 10 full-time staff, 3,000 hours of programming and the production and broadcast of locally originated programming. State funding would need to be great enough to enable the stations to meet these requirements. And the costs of meeting these requirements are likely to vary from station to station.)

The APBC has indicated that the stations actually need considerably more than \$1.1 million. A budget of \$1.8 million to \$1.9 million would make more sense as an austerity budget in the absence of more detailed information about operating costs. This would mean a savings for the state of \$210,000 to \$300,000.

**C. Continue funding, but only for a single, statewide station.**

The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission estimates that it would cost the state an additional \$75,000 a year if it chose to support only one public TV station. Costs would include the loss of 33 jobs at stations, the loss of 43 jobs in the private sector, loss of \$1.2 million in federal revenue. There would also be the loss of regional program content -- and this would be most evident in the area served by the Bethel station. There would be additional expenses for uplink/downlink facilities and for technical staff, for acquisition of programming to be broadcast statewide, and so forth.

This information suggests that a single statewide public television station wouldn't make economic sense as a substitute for the four

more locally oriented stations. However, it appears to make economic sense if it were also intended to replace the RATNET channel. The state might then expect to save about half the money it now spends on television broadcasting.

The biggest question raised by this option is how well it would be accepted by, first, the public television audience and, second, by rural Alaskans who would receive it instead of RATNET.

#### **D. Eliminate funding.**

The Anchorage station should survive. The Bethel station would not. Survival of the Juneau and Fairbanks stations is doubtful. APBC's executive director, Charles M. Northrip, says neither station could survive without state support. Hours of operation of any surviving stations and the amount of locally-originated programming would be significantly reduced.

KYUK-TV in Bethel depends on state funding. It gets only \$80,000 of the \$300,000 it needs to qualify for federal funding from private sources. Without state support, it would have to try to operate on \$80,000 a year -- a clear impossibility.

KTOO-TV in Juneau would still have an operating budget of about \$380,000, enough to meet the federal requirement for income. However, according to its general manager, it would be unable to meet the other requirements to qualify for federal funding. It would cease operation, he says.

KAKM-TV in Anchorage would qualify for federal funding even without state assistance. KAKM's operating income without state funding (\$1.7 million before adjustment for reduced federal funding) might still be larger than is KYUK's today.

There would be some costs for the state in finding other ways to distribute educational programming now carried by these stations. (The state film library, which could have responded to schools' requests for videotapes, has also been a victim of budget cuts.) The state might also want to increase its tourism promotion budget to counter any effects on tourism of the loss of Alaskan programming carried on the national PBS system. (No information is available on the contribution such programming has made to tourism in the state.) If it eliminated funding for public television but kept the RATNET channel, it might have to provide RATNET with funds to purchase PBC programs such as Sesame Street, NOVA and the National Geographic Specials.

### **III. Public Radio**

#### **A. Continue funding at the current level.**

The state now spends \$4 million annually to fund 15 full-service and five repeater public radio stations (repeater stations basically relay programming that originates elsewhere; they are capable, however, of originating some local programming). Two additional repeater stations are scheduled to go into service soon.

#### **B. Continue funding, but at a reduced level.**

To qualify for federal funding, public radio stations must receive \$150,000 annually from non-federal sources, have at least five full-time staff members and provide a significant amount of locally produced programming. The repeater stations are not eligible for federal funding. State funding, if it is to preserve the system, must be at the level that allows the full service stations to continue to qualify for federal funding and that meets the expenses of the repeater stations. (The operating costs of a repeater station are reported to be 25 percent of the costs of a full-service station.)

#### **C. Continue funding, but only for stations reaching rural areas that otherwise would not be served.**

The difficulty is that even the urban stations reach some areas that have no alternative radio service (see Table III, Page 29). If this proposal is strictly interpreted, it would require that funding be continued for nearly all the public radio stations.

A second difficulty, discussed in more detail later in this report, is that much of the content carried by the rural stations is originated by reporters working for the urban stations. There would be significant costs in providing that content if there were no longer urban public radio stations in Alaska.

The administration's revised budget for public radio in Alaska would provide \$1.3 million for stations in Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham and Kotzebue. These stations reach 77 communities that receive no other radio station. Twenty-four rural communities would no longer receive any radio service if this plan were adopted. The surviving stations would provide little, if any, of the statewide public radio programming now available.

#### **D. Fund a single, statewide public radio station.**

This would be costly if all but one of the now-existing radio stations were converted to repeater stations. That would mean 19 stations would no longer qualify for federal funding. They would no longer be in a position to solicit local contributions. They would still require

maintenance. Their operating costs, as noted above, are about 25 percent of those of full-service stations. Costs to the state of maintaining such a system would exceed the costs of maintaining five full-service public radio stations.

The costs would appear to be much less if 19 stations were shut down and the signal of the remaining station were carried on a subchannel of a statewide TV channel (see the North Star Concept in Appendix A). However, it would be necessary to install low-power radio transmitters in the communities served by the statewide channel. The capital cost is estimated by the APBC at \$2.5 million. There would also be maintenance and operation costs.

An additional major cost would be the creation of a statewide news staff to duplicate the activities of the Alaska Public Radio Network. That network, which is funded by dues from the Alaska public radio stations and relies on news reports from member stations, could not survive if only one station was left. The new network would need to be operated in such a way that it was assured independence of the state government in making content decisions.

The greatest difficulties with this proposal, however, are non-economic ones. Radio is a local medium. The muskeg message service, for example, wouldn't be possible on a single statewide channel, nor would coverage of village council meetings. This proposal would turn Alaska public radio into something far different from what it is today.

#### **E. Eliminate funding.**

KSKA radio in Anchorage would survive. KSKA's manager said in an interview that he believed his station is the only one that could survive and that even the programming of his station would be dramatically altered by the loss of state funding. Several public radio station managers have testified that they could not survive without state funding.

There would be a cost for the state. Several of the public radio stations provide the only means of broadcasting emergency warnings in the areas they serve. The director of the Division of Telecommunications has said this would not be a trivial cost. It might be necessary to provide ways of transmitting other types of messages such as weather information and fisheries information now carried by public radio.

#### **Conclusion**

Only two of the combinations of options listed above provide any likelihood of preserving a statewide telecommunication system resembling

the one the state now has. Other options significantly reduce broadcast coverage areas as well as types of content offered -- and some of them offer no assurance of significant savings for the state.

The most cautious course of action -- if preservation of the system is the goal -- is to continue to fund broadcasting at the present level: \$10 million.

The second course would be to reduce funding for telecommunications by up to 15 percent -- on the assumption that all of the telecommunications services, including RATNET, could survive at that level. Even this course of action would likely have some negative effects on content, but it might make survival of the telecommunications infrastructure possible.

Any course of action requiring sharper reductions in funding will necessitate a weighing of the value of broadcasting against that of other services provided by the state. There will be real social costs in such cuts, and these non-economic costs are outlined in some detail in the following section.

**"It doesn't sound complicated when you first start to talk about it -- but it is."**

Mel Hoversten, director, DOA  
Division of Telecommunications

# How State-Supported Broadcasting Serves Alaska

Alaska's broadcast system is complex and the media within it are interconnected. The nature of these interconnections is far from obvious at a casual glance. For many Alaskans, because of geographical isolation or physical handicaps, radio and television are the only window opening onto a larger world. In many communities newspapers, if they arrive at all, arrive days late. But the broadcast media in Alaska are more than simply a window on the world.

The different media within this system serve different functions and are only imperfectly substitutable for each other. Radio is a more local medium than television; television can show types of cultural and educational programming such as Native dances that radio cannot. A survey for this committee conducted last fall found that television was preferred by a 4-to-1 ratio as the source of some kinds of information. This is consistent with equally recent national findings that, if people were limited to just one medium, they'd pick television.

Within the media, the commercial, public supported and state operated sectors serve separate functions and, again, one sector is unlikely to fill gaps created by the loss of another. The loss of Learn Alaska, for example, led to no shifts in the types of programming offered by either public-supported or commercial TV. Managers of Anchorage commercial TV and radio stations said in recent interviews that they would not adjust their programming if public broadcasting were to disappear.

Within sectors of the media such as public broadcasting, the urban and rural components are interconnected. Rural audiences of public radio, for example, depend for their reports of governmental and other activities in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks on the public radio stations in those cities. Similarly, the urban stations depend on the rural public radio stations to provide their listeners accounts of life in the Bush.

The following pages provide a sketch of how RATNET, public television and public radio serve the interests of the State of Alaska.

The RATNET television channel serves many communities that would otherwise have no television. Similarly, public radio reaches many communities that would otherwise not have radio service.

Communities reached by public television have alternative television channels available. However, these alternative channels do not -- and are unlikely to -- provide the type of programming carried on public television. Some of RATNET's content is there only because it was made available at no cost by public television.

The Department of Education and the University of Alaska produce instructional programming. The only outlets for this programming that exist today are RATNET, public television and Anchorage's Cable Channel 10.

Thus, there are two major issues in a discussion of state-supported broadcasting:

1. Whether the state should maintain its commitment to assuring that all Alaskans have radio and television service.
2. Whether the state should maintain its commitment to types of broadcast content that would otherwise be unavailable.

These issues are distinct. However, decisions that fail to take both of them into account may have unforeseen consequences. For example: Elimination of RATNET on the grounds that a statewide channel is unnecessary would mean loss of the only means of broadcasting instructional programs across the state.

**"What is it necessary for the state to do that no one else can or will do?"**

-- Ted Lehne, executive director, Alaska  
Telephone Association

**"I see this as a great emotional issue. People get very emotional about television because it becomes sort of like a member of the family."**

-- Al Bramstedt Jr., general  
manager of KTUU-TV, an  
Anchorage commercial station

## **RATNET -- An Overview**

The statewide RATNET channel of the Satellite Television Project is made possible by funding from the state and free programming from commercial and public television. Special consent from the three national networks and the Federal Communications Commission was required before the system could begin broadcasting in January 1977. Content selections are made by a 17-member board of directors who meet four to six times a year and make recommendations based on their understanding of viewer desires.

RATNET is of value to the state because:

- \*It is Alaska's only statewide television channel,
- \*It reaches thousands of Alaskans who receive no other channel,
- \*Even for Alaskans who receive other channels, it may provide programming not otherwise available,
- \*In areas where cable television is the only alternative, it provides programming for those who cannot afford cable,
- \*The channel can be used as a carrier for other types of information such as radio signals and teletext.

RATNET is primarily an entertainment channel -- its entertainment offerings include national network programming as well as programs about Alaska as they become available -- but it also provides a variety of information services. These include:

- \*Alaskan and national news
- \*Alaska weather
- \*state legislative news
- \*congressional delegation report
- \*instructional programming for downloading to schools during the early morning hours
- \*emergency tone. It is scheduled to become the connection for the 15 regional radio stations in the emergency broadcasting system.
- \*textual information and graphics. The system is being used by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, library for transmission of data in its Gnosis project. It could be used for statewide delivery rapidly and at low cost of a wide variety of textual information.

In addition, RATNET subchannels are being used to carry the audio signal for KSKA public radio to Valdez, Galena and Seward. The KSKA signal, the emergency tone and the textual information now can be carried at virtually no extra cost to the state. These services would be eliminated if RATNET was shut down. The textual information can be transmitted over phone lines but graphics could not be transmitted in this way. In addition, villages

without local access to the University of Alaska Computer Network would have to pay long distance charges for getting their information.

## How RATNET operates

RATNET does not originate its own programming.

At their meetings, RATNET board members discuss individual programs with representatives of commercial channels and other program sources. Often film clips are viewed. Board members make their decisions based on their understanding of what the majority of the viewers they represent want to see. The board has expressed reluctance to accept programs in any of the Native languages or to accept instructional programming for transmission during the daytime hours. It is receptive to programs about Alaska and Alaskans, though proposals to air these programs can generate heated discussions if they are on such controversial subjects as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Two Anchorage TV stations provide news programs that are transmitted over RATNET. Both of these programs are oriented toward Anchorage news. KTUU-TV attempted to provide a statewide news program for RATNET beginning in the fall of 1982. It increased its staff by seven full-time employees to provide the program. However, the station was unable to get the necessary advertising support and took the program off the air in April 1983. (An attempt to establish a statewide commercial radio news network in the early 1980s was equally unsuccessful.)

Almost half of the 248 communities that RATNET serves have no other source of television. RATNET is still meeting one of the goals that was originally stated for it in 1976: to distribute television programming to small communities. RATNET remains the only television channel available to about 18,000 Alaskans in 121 communities (Table I at end of report).

The communities that remain dependent on RATNET for television are the smaller ones; their population averages 155. Economic considerations discourage cabling of smaller villages. Cabling on poles costs \$20,000 to \$25,000 a mile, underground cabling costs \$30,000 to \$40,000 a mile. The head end charges for a village, regardless of its size, are approximately \$100,000. Use of village transmitters by commercial broadcasters to transmit over-the-air signals would be somewhat cheaper (see Appendix A). Just four RATNET-only villages, with a total population of 800, got cable systems in 1986. But, however slowly, more will inevitably follow.

In the long run -- if the concern is simply to make television available to all Alaskans -- it might be cheaper for the state to cable the remaining villages than to continue to fund RATNET. High monthly cable charges, however, will still deny some Alaskans access to television. If RATNET costs were calculated in this way, they would come to \$2.35 per month apiece for each of its 124,000 viewers. And it would not be cheaper to turn to cable if the state also accepted the obligation to pay the monthly charges for users. Witnesses at a House Finance Committee hearing Feb. 25, 1987, estimated charges for providing cable programs to rural Alaskans would be \$91 million a year, and

more than half of that money would go to cable companies in the Lower 48.

Alascom owns much of the RATNET resources. Its property includes:

- \*The TV Operations Center
- \*Juneau, Anchorage and Kotzebue uplinks
- \*Space satellite transponder
- \*149 downlinks (earth station satellite dishes)

State equipment includes:

- \*More than 90 TV receive-only satellite dishes that have been used in areas where the Alascom dishes were not available
- \*248 RATNET transmitters
- \*Anchorage Tape Delay Center
- \*NW Arctic ITV production facility, Kotzebue

The transmitters are licensed by the FCC as low power television stations.

A total of \$60.6 million has been spent by the state on the RATNET program since it began. This includes \$1.5 million in capital expenditures, \$41.7 million in operating expenditures and \$17.4 million in unidentified capital and operating expenditures.

## RATNET's future

Despite its strengths, RATNET is vulnerable.

Before Learn Alaska went on the air in the early 1980s, RATNET's content was somewhat different than it is today. The entertainment programming was shown between 5 p.m. and 1 a.m., with a number of daytime hours being set aside for instructional programming. The RATNET directors were asked to return to that format after Learn Alaska was shut down in the summer of 1986. They refused. Since then they have considered instructional programs during the day on a case by case basis and have expressed unwillingness to make a regular day-time slot available for instructional programs.

The loss of instructional programming has increased the resemblance between RATNET's content and that offered by public and commercial stations.

Unlike most of the cable systems that have appeared in Alaska today, RATNET has been able to offer network programming. But it would appear to be a direct competitor -- and therefore an inhibitor -- of services such as the North Star Concept which would provide network programs. Thus, unless it offers programming different from commercial services, it could be seen as slowing the spread of commercial television to villages. (The author believes that, even without RATNET, the spread would not be very rapid in the short run. Commercial broadcasters have indicated that the smaller villages are not a very attractive market.)

RATNET, clearly, is vulnerable from several quarters. As a state-supported service it must be seen as something that contributes to telecommunication in the state -- not as something that could inhibit its growth. Today, it is a unique channel that provides a number of valuable services. However, these services are widely perceived as rather peripheral benefits of RATNET.

The implications of this for RATNET are clear: If RATNET is to long survive, it must provide an alternative to the programming from other sources that is being offered to a steadily increasing number of its viewers. This unique content, not entertainment programs, will provide the justification for its continued existence.

## Public Television -- Overview

There are four public television stations in Alaska: KAKM in Anchorage, KYUK in Bethel, KUAC in Fairbanks and KTOO in Juneau. The Fairbanks station is University operated; the others receive state funds through the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. All receive significant portions of their funding from the federal government and from private donors.

Alaskan public television provides:

- \*Programming to 90 percent of the state's population,
- \*Alaskan Aviation Weather. This is a nightly half-hour show produced by KAKM in Anchorage and broadcast on RATNET. Annual costs of this program are estimated at \$96,000 even though the meteorologist's time is donated by the National Weather Service,
- \*Free programming for RATNET. Public broadcasting programs that have been picked up by RATNET include National Geographic specials, the MacNeil-Lehrer news hour, Mystery and Masterpiece Theater,
- \*Television service to some Alaskans who would otherwise have none. The signals of even the Anchorage station reaches -- through translators -- some Alaskans who have no other television service,
- \*Types of programs not offered -- or likely to be offered -- by commercial TV. Two Anchorage TV station operators said the disappearance of public TV would have no effect on their programming.

Benefits of public television include:

- \*Production of programs about Alaska that are broadcast in the Lower 48 and presumably encourage tourism. Examples include the just-completed half-hour documentary, "Denali Flyers," and a series of seven programs on cooking Alaskan seafood that has been aired by 33 stations in 27 states. The general manager of KUAC in Fairbanks testified that her station provided two series and five documentaries to the national networks in the last three years.
- \*Information about the political process. This includes voter information such as the 44-hour "Running" series last year and coverage on political debates and individual candidates. Even this year, when the legislative TV program is being produced by a commercial station, it is being shown

on public rather than commercial channels in cities other than Juneau.

\*Instructional programming. KAKM, for example, provides air time for Anchorage Community College, the Mat-Su Community College, Kenai Community College, the University of Alaska and the Anchorage, Kenai and Mat-Su school districts.

\*Information about Native cultures. A teleconference witness, for example, credited KYUK-TV in Bethel with helping the Yupik culture to survive. Another witness said KYUK radio and TV were the only bilingual media available in the Bethel area.

\*Health information. The same witness credited the public stations in Bethel with broadcasting programs that helped that region to deal with its infant mortality rate, which had been the highest in the nation. (Nine public information messages and 10 radio messages on perinatal health care were produced by Instructional Media Production Services; the people who made them lost their jobs when Learn Alaska was shut down.)

\*Programming that can be simultaneously broadcast by public radio stations. KFSK in Petersburg, for example, has simulcast KTOO-TV broadcasts of governors' speeches and legislative events.

## How public television operates

Public television in Alaska enjoys strong public support. It has loyal viewers whose contributions per capita are among the highest in the country. A total of 569 volunteers help the four stations with fund-raising and production. That support has put public TV in a strong position *vis a vis* commercial television. Public television is unusually strong relative to commercial television in Alaska because of the state's small and scattered population.

However, public TV does not compete with commercial TV except for audience share. Even there it is not a real competitor as a look at last November's Nielsen ratings for the prime-time, 8-10 p.m. slot makes clear. The public channel in Anchorage, KAKM, ranked fifth of the five stations with a 5 percent share of the audience, compared with 32 percent, 30 percent, 25 percent and 6 percent for the commercial stations.

What public TV offers is an alternative type of programming; programming that has social value but is too expensive for commercial stations to provide. Public TV does not try to attract large, homogeneous audiences but to provide a variety of programming that will include material of interest to a wide variety of viewers over the course of a typical week. (KAKM's general manager testified that more than 50 percent of the Southcentral residents watch that channel every week.) Commercial TV cannot afford to operate in this way.

This is the rationale for state support of public TV programming in Alaska. Three of the four public TV stations in the state are in urban areas. They do not reach audiences that have no other source of television. They do address audience needs, however, that would otherwise go unmet.

The state lacks the economic base to support commercial operations large enough to generate a large amount of state-oriented programming. Only public television is strong enough today to be able to provide this type of programming. A decline in state support of public TV would quickly lead to a

decline in this type of programming; severance of state support could mean the loss of most or all of it.

As Alaska's population grows, public TV should become increasingly less dependent on state funding. Evidence of this is contained within KAKM's budget figures for the last decade. As Anchorage's population has grown, the proportion of KAKM's budget met by the state has steadily declined -- from 43.8 percent in FY '76 to 30.6 percent in FY '87. (The dollar amount has increased, although at a lower rate than the increases from other sources of income.)

## **The future of public television**

The survival of public television is in doubt. If state funding is lost, the stations will also lose some or all of their federal funding which is contingent on the amount of funds raised from other sources.

If any stations survive they will almost certainly provide little of the programming that differentiates public television from commercial television. Locally produced programs cost far more than do programs purchased from networks even if they are produced with the help of volunteers. Local production is inevitably the first victim of budget cuts, as KAKM manager Elmo Sackett indicated in his testimony about the effects of previous cuts in state funding on his station's operations. His staff was reduced from 32 to 25 full-time employees following a 14 percent cut in state funding last year; two of those who left were producer-directors, one was a cinematographer. Only one producer remains at the station.

Loss of public television stations would mean loss of the state's investment in equipment. Public stations have purchased equipment under the Public Telecommunication Facilities Program, with two-thirds of the money coming from the federal government and one-third from the state government. Equipment purchased under this program would revert to the federal government. KTOO's general manager argues that the state will never have the money to replace this equipment if it is lost.

It is clear that public television is popular in Alaska and that it satisfies a variety of needs that would otherwise go unmet. Two of the three most viewed public television stations in the United States are KUAC in Fairbanks and KAKM in Anchorage.

The immediate question is: How well does public television satisfy the needs that are important to the state?

The FCC has long required of applicants for commercial licenses information about number of broadcast hours and percentage of total broadcast time that are devoted to the following types of programming: news, public affairs, local programming, all other programs exclusive of sports and entertainment. Despite the easing of broadcast regulation in recent years, commercial licensees continue to maintain logs of this type. If a commercial license is challenged, such logs can prove invaluable in defending it. Even though the state is supporting public television presumably because it is better able than commercial television to provide programming in these categories, it does not make use of this sort of information from the public stations. The

public stations do file with the APBC copies of all the reports required of public stations by the FCC; they also provide copies of all program schedules.

Without review of this type of information, it is hard to see whether the state is getting good value for its money. Such a review would not move the state government into the sensitive area of program content decisions. It would, however, act as an incentive for Alaskan public television stations to provide programming in the categories the state regards as important.

The state's interest in public television appears to be justifiable so long as public television continues to show the type of programming relevant to Alaskans that is unlikely to be offered by other media. This programming can help preserve Native cultures and make urban Alaskans more aware of them, it can advertise Alaska to the rest of the country, it can enable Alaskans to participate more fully in the political and economic life of their state. It appears that this programming can be produced at least cost to the state by public television (the most expensive way of producing it is through the letting of contracts by agencies such as the Division of Tourism; that does not assure that the programming thus produced will be televised, unless the state also buys television time).

## Public Radio -- Overview

There are nine FM and six AM public radio stations in Alaska. Six of the stations are in Southeast Alaska, one is on the North Slope (Barrow), two are in the Interior, three are on the west coast, three are in Southcentral Alaska. In addition there are repeater stations at Sand Point, St. Paul Island, Galena, Unalaska and Valdez. Repeater stations are nearly ready at Unalakleet and Chevak.

The benefits of public radio are:

- \*It reaches some Alaskans reached by no other radio station. The residents of St. Paul Island, for example, could receive only Radio Moscow until a public radio repeater station was installed there. (See Tables II and III at end of report.)
- \*Many of the public radio stations are part of Alaska's emergency broadcasting system. A witness from Kotzebue testified: "Radio is part of our survival gear when we travel."
- \*It provides message services for Alaskans not easily reached by other media including newspapers and mail. A Barrow attorney testified: "When I go on a village trip I can put a message on radio . . . so people are ready to see us."
- \*It is a local medium. It provides coverage of local events in depth not rivalled by commercial stations.
- \*It provides types of specialized programming -- such as Spanish-language, Native and black programming -- that would not otherwise be available in even the most populated parts of the state.
- \*It provides public service programming. "Staying Alive, 60 Seconds That Could Save Your Life," was broadcast in Yupik and English by the Barrow radio station, for example.

Supporters of public radio say that elimination of state funding will mean the elimination of public radio. The manager of KSKA says that station could stay on the air but that it would have to adopt a format much like that of commercial stations which provide little local programming and no specialized programming. If most public radio stations disappeared, so would the Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN) which depends not on state government funding but on dues from member radio stations.

## Public radio content

The public radio stations provide local programming and, through APRN, they exchange programming so that public radio listeners are kept aware the occurrences in other parts of the state. Much of the news of statewide interest is provided for APRN by reporters at the stations in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. A survey conducted in January 1986 for the Alaska Public Radio Network found that 49 percent of the adults statewide listened to its Alaska News Nightly program. In Fairbanks, the figure was 45 percent; in Barrow it was 93 percent. APRN is now originating a national Native news program. Its other offerings include a fishing show produced by KMXT in Kodiak.

Eight of the public radio stations and three of the repeaters are part of the Alaska emergency broadcasting network. These are the stations that have been designated to warn of imminent disasters such as tsunamai waves or the storm last fall in the Mat-Su Borough. There is no alternative broadcasting source to seven of these stations (the ones in Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Galena, Kotzebue, McGrath and Wrangell).

The vulnerability of public radio to funding cuts was indicated in recent testimony by the general manager of Raven Radio in Sitka. He said the loss of state funding would mean not simply the shutting down of the station, but the loss of its equipment and its facilities. Its facilities are leased. Much of the equipment was purchased under an arrangement with the federal government which required the station to pay only 25 percent of the costs. If it stops operating, the federal government will reclaim the equipment.

If the public radio system ceases to operate, more than 100 full-time employees, 40 part-time employees, and 700 volunteers will lose their jobs.

Witnesses at teleconference hearings testified that information carried on public radio has an effect on their ability to do business. Several fishermen said they depended on public radio for information about closings and openings, and price information. A judge said he used public radio to notify prospective jurors when they would be called for jury duty.

## The future of public radio

The future of public radio, like that of public television, appears to be in the hands of the state government. The state now supports 15 stations that provide local information in most parts of the state. Public radio's content is different from that of commercial radio; in areas where both exist, public radio

offers viewers types of programming that would otherwise be unavailable. In some areas of the state, commercial radio is not available. In those areas, public radio is important not only for the types of content it provides but as the only radio link to the larger world.

**"It seems like we re-invent the wheel every year in telecommunications. The need for stability is to me the most critical."**

-- Edie Lynch, assistant vice chancellor for  
instructional technology, Anchorage  
Community College

Table I

## Communities Receiving Television Only From RATNET

| Community          | Households | Population | Community           | Households | Population |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Akhiok             | 27         | 107        | Kaltag              | 58         | 262        |
| Akutan             | 17         | 185        | Karluk              | 21         | 90         |
| Aleknagik          | 38         | 201        | Kasaan              | 9          | 70         |
| Allakaket          | 46         | 175        | King Cove           | 114        | 521        |
| Ambler             | 48         | 262        | Kivalina            | 37         | 294        |
| Arctic Village     | 35         | 109        | Klukwan             | 40         | 239        |
| Atka               | 22         | 80         | Kobuk               | 16         | 97         |
| Beaver             | 23         | 65         | Kokhanok            | 20         | 80         |
| Bettles            | 20         | 60         | Koliganek           | 24         | 112        |
| Birch Creek        | 13         | 31         | Koyuk               | 48         | 211        |
| Cantwell           | 29         | 87         | Koyukuk             | 26         | 98         |
| Cape Pole          | 4          | 30         | Labouchre Bay       | 75         | 300        |
| Central            | 19         | 35         | Larsen Bay          | 41         | 214        |
| Chalkytsik         | 29         | 98         | Lime Village        | 13         | 33         |
| Chignik Bay        | 38         | 141        | McGrath             | 129        | 499        |
| Chignik Lagoon     | 14         | 46         | Mekoryuk            | 44         | 182        |
| Chistochina        | 15         | 43         | Mentasta Lake       | 12         | 72         |
| Chitina            | 19         | 33         | Meshik (Pt. Heiden) | 29         | 87         |
| Circle             | 18         | 101        | Meyers Chuck        | 21         | 52         |
| Circle Hot Springs | 12         | 36         | Minchumina          | 7          | 20         |
| Clark's Point      | 22         | 75         | Mosquito Lake       |            |            |
| Coffman Cove       | 62         | 199        | Naukati Bay         | 42         | 140        |
| Cold Bay           | 49         | 246        | Nelson Lagoon       | 18         | 64         |
| Cooper Landing     | 49         | 346        | New Stuyahok        | 65         | 246        |
| Council            | 8          | 23         | Newhalen            | 18         | 157        |
| Crooked Creek      | 25         | 75         | Nightmute           | 24         | 134        |
| Diomedes           | 30         | 153        | Nikolai*            | 22         | 109        |
| Eagle              | 48         | 171        | Nikolaief           | 23         | 100        |
| Eagle Village      | 20         | 56         | Noatak              | 59         | 355        |
| Egegik             | 32         | 72         | Nondalton           | 42         | 231        |
| Eight Fathom Bight |            |            | Noorvik             | 91         | 517        |
| Ekuk               | 2          | 7          | Northway            | 30         | 116        |
| Ekwok              | 20         | 80         | Nulato              | 71         | 388        |
| English Bay        | 28         | 172        | Old Harbor          | 88         | 405        |
| False Pass         | 21         | 76         | Ouzinkie            | 57         | 240        |
| Freshwater Bay     | 13         | 50         | Pedro Bay           | 11         | 32         |
| Golovin            | 31         | 122        | Pelican             | 64         | 206        |
| Goodnews Bay       | 42         | 230        | Perryville          | 31         | 107        |
| Grayling           | 52         | 220        | Pilot Point         | 16         | 63         |
| Gustavus           | 44         | 218        | Point Baker         | 45         | 93         |
| Halibut Cove       | 23         | 52         | Port Alice          | 34         | 135        |
| Holy Cross         | 63         | 191        | Port Alsworth       | 19         | 75         |
| Hughes             | 22         | 97         | Port Graham         | 53         | 174        |
| Huslia             | 59         | 283        | Port Moller         | 9          | 37         |
| Hyder              | 29         | 79         | Portage Creek       | 13         | 46         |
| Iliamna            | 22         | 90         | Rampart             | 14         | 49         |
| Ivanof Bay         | 9          | 38         |                     |            |            |

| Community       | Households | Population |
|-----------------|------------|------------|
| Red Devil       | 10         | 27         |
| Rowan Bay       | 13         | 50         |
| Ruby            | 63         | 283        |
| Saint George    | 40         | 172        |
| Saint Paul      | 126        | 541        |
| Sand Point      | 186        | 870        |
| Shaktoolik      | 43         | 186        |
| Slana           | 16         | 39         |
| Sleetmute       | 36         | 74         |
| Stevens Village | 30         | 94         |
| Stoney River    | 17         | 43         |
| Takotna         | 17         | 47         |
| Tanana          | 118        | 444        |
| Tatitlek        | 23         | 54         |
| Telida          | 8          | 32         |
| Teller          | 39         | 257        |
| Tenakee Springs | 70         | 156        |
| Tetlin          | 27         | 110        |
| Tolsona         |            |            |
| Trappers Creek  | 112        | 350        |
| Twin Hills      | 17         | 67         |
| Venetie         | 36         | 129        |
| Wales           | 37         | 136        |
| Whale Pass      | 25         | 93         |
| White Mountain  | 36         | 150        |
| Whittier        | 77         | 268        |
| Woman's Bay     |            |            |
| Yakutat         | 139        | 453        |
| Total           | 4,415      | 18,223+    |

Four communities that received only RATNET television in 1985 began receiving a second service in 1986. They are:

Brevig Mission      population 151  
community television

Deering                      150  
community television

Elim                              248  
corporation television

Shungnak                      238  
community television

In December 1986, the only television that 121 Alaskan communities were receiving was RATNET. The average population of the 117 communities for which information is available was 155.

Compiled with the assistance of Richard Taylor, assistant professor, University of Alaska, Anchorage, Department of Journalism and Public Communications.

#### Sources:

"Alaska Population Overview." Department of Labor. Juneau: State of Alaska, September 1985.

"Alaska's Cable Television." Department of Administration. Juneau: State of Alaska, February 1986.

"Inventory of Communications Facilities Serving Alaska Communities, 1986 Edition." Division of Telecommunications Services, Department of Administration. Juneau: State of Alaska, 1986.

"Inventory of Communications Facilities Serving Alaska Communities, 1987 Edition." Division of Telecommunications Services, Department of Administration. Juneau: State of Alaska.

**Table II**  
**Communities Receiving Radio**  
**Only From Public Radio**

| Community Population |       | Community Population |       | Community Population |         |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|---------|
| Akhiok               | 107   | Koliganek            | 112   | Sand Point           | 870     |
| Aleknagik            | 201   | Kongiganak           | 166   | Selawik              | 635     |
| Anaktuvuk Pass       | 233   | Kotzebue             | 2,345 | Shishmaref           | 493     |
| Angoon               | 470   | Koyukuk              | 98    | Shungnak             | 238     |
| Aniak                | 476   | Kwigillingok         | 246   | Skagway              | 761     |
| Atkasook             | 214   | Levelock             | 76    | South Naknek         | 185     |
| Barrow               | 2,943 | Lower Kalskag        | 270   | Talkotna             | 47      |
| Birch Creek          | 31    | Manokotak            | 302   | Togiak               | 554     |
| Buckland             | 249   | Marshall             | 281   | Toksook Bay          | 365     |
| Chefornak            | 268   | McGrath              | 499   | Tuntutuliak          | 203     |
| Chuathalik           | 98    | Medfra               |       | Tununak              | 333     |
| Circle               | 101   | Meshik               | 87    | Twin Hills           | 67      |
| Clark's Point        | 75    | Meyers Chuck         | 52    | Unalaska             | 1,630   |
| Cold Bay             | 246   | Mosquito Lake        |       | Wainwright           | 507     |
| Craig                | 881   | Naknek               | 405   |                      |         |
| Deadhorse            | 63    | Nelson Lagoon        | 64    | Total Pop.           | 33,122+ |
| Deering              | 150   | New Stuyahok         | 246   |                      |         |
| Dillingham           | 2,004 | Newhalen             | 157   | (population figures  |         |
| Dutch Harbor         |       | Newtok               | 187   | unavailable for four |         |
| Eek                  | 259   | Nightmute            | 134   | communities)         |         |
| Egegik               | 72    | Nikolai              | 109   |                      |         |
| Ekuk                 | 7     | Noatak               | 355   |                      |         |
| Ekwok                | 80    | Nondalton            | 231   |                      |         |
| Elim                 | 248   | Noorvik              | 517   |                      |         |
| Goodnews Bay         | 230   | Nuiqsut              | 305   |                      |         |
| Haines               | 1,154 | Nulato               | 388   |                      |         |
| Hollis               |       | Nunapitchuk          | 357   |                      |         |
| Huslia               | 283   | Pelican              | 206   |                      |         |
| Hydaburg             | 371   | Perryville           | 107   |                      |         |
| Igiugig              | 32    | Pilot Point          | 63    |                      |         |
| Iliamna              | 90    | Pilot Station        | 372   |                      |         |
| Ivanof Bay           | 38    | Pitkas Point         | 67    |                      |         |
| Kaktovik             | 207   | Platinum             | 64    |                      |         |
| Kalskag              | 145   | Point Hope           | 582   |                      |         |
| Kaltag               | 262   | Point Lay            | 67    |                      |         |
| Karluk               | 90    | Port Heiden          | 87    |                      |         |
| Kasigluk             | 355   | Port Moller          | 37    |                      |         |
| Kiana                | 402   | Portage Creek        | 46    |                      |         |
| King Cove            | 521   | Quinhagak            | 424   |                      |         |
| Kipnuk               | 350   | Ruby                 | 283   |                      |         |
| Kivalina             | 294   | Russian Mission      | 195   |                      |         |
| Klawock              | 508   | Saint George         | 172   |                      |         |
| Klukwan              | 239   | Saint Mary's         | 566   |                      |         |
| Kokhanok             | 80    | Saint Paul           | 541   |                      |         |

(population figures  
unavailable for four  
communities)

This table is based on a reanalysis by Herb Holeman, APBC engineer, of the "Inventory of Communications Facilities Serving Alaska Communities -- 1987," Department of Administration, Division of Telecommunications.

The DOA inventory, based on station reports, indicated 73 communities with a total population of 20,183+ receive only public radio. Holeman's analysis, based on FCC standards for determining service areas, indicates 102 communities get their only clear radio signal from a public radio station.

It appears that some people in communities excluded from the DOA list receive commercial radio when the atmospheric conditions are right or with special equipment.

**Table III**  
**Public Radio Stations That Provide  
Sole Radio Service for Communities**

| Station                                               | # Communities | Population |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| KDLG, Dillingham                                      | 33            | 7,963      |
| KYUK, Bethel                                          | 24            | 6,411      |
| KOTZ, Kotzebue                                        | 11            | 6,260      |
| KBRW, Barrow                                          | 9             | 5,721      |
| KHNS, Haines                                          | 4             | 2,154+     |
| KRBD, Ketchikan                                       | 4             | 1,760+     |
| KIAL, Unalaska                                        | 2             | 1,630      |
| KSDP, Sand Point                                      | 2             | 1,391      |
| KIYU, Galena<br>(translating from KSKA,<br>Anchorage) | 4             | 1,031      |
| KSKO, McGrath                                         | 5             | 938+       |
| KUHB, Saint Paul                                      | 2             | 713        |
| KCAW, Sitka                                           | 2             | 676        |
| KMXT, Kodiak                                          | 2             | 197        |
| KUAC, Fairbanks                                       | 2             | 132        |
| KSTK, Wrangell                                        | 1             | 52         |
| ?                                                     | 1             | 248        |

**Notes:** Total of communities exceeds 102 because six communities receive two public radio stations (four of the six receive both KYUK and KDLG). Stations that do not appear on this list are KBBI, Homer; KTOO, Juneau; and KFSK, Petersburg. The community listed under "?" is on Norton Sound. Although it is not shown on the table, KTOO's general manager says four communities with a total population of 1,050 receive radio only from that station. The table is based on information from the same sources as Table II.

**Table IV**  
**Communities That Do Not Receive**  
**Any Radio Stations**

| Community      | Population | Community        | Population |
|----------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| Akutan         | 185        | Kobuk            | 97         |
| Allakaket      | 175        | Lime Village     | 33         |
| Ambler         | 262        | Long Island      |            |
| Anvik          | 82         | Mentasta Lake    | 72         |
| Arctic Village | 109        | Minchumina       | 20         |
| Atka           | 80         | Nikolski         | 54         |
| Bettles        | 60         | Northway         | 116        |
| Cape Pole      | 30         | Port Alexander   | 162        |
| Chalkytsik     | 98         | Port Alice       | 135        |
| Chignik Bay    | 141        | Port Alsworth    | 75         |
| Chignik Lagoon | 46         | Red Devil        | 27         |
| Chignik Lake   | 153        | Shageluk         | 148        |
| Crooked Creek  | 75         | Sleetmute        | 74         |
| Dot Lake       | 69         | Sparrevohn       | 28         |
| Eagle          | 171        | Stoney River     | 43         |
| Eagle Village  | 56         | Tanacross        | 148        |
| False Pass     | 76         | Tanana           | 444        |
| Freshwater Bay | 50         | Telida           | 32         |
| Grayling       | 220        | Tetlin           | 110        |
| Holy Cross     | 191        | Venetie          | 129        |
| Hyder          | 79         |                  |            |
|                |            | Total population | 4,355+     |

People in some of the 41 communities on the above list may receive radio transmissions if the atmospheric conditions are right or if they have equipment capable of picking up weak signals.

This table is based on a re-analysis by Herb Holeman, APBC engineer, of the "Inventory of Communications Facilities Serving Alaska Communities -- 1987," Department of Administration, Division of Telecommunications. The DOA inventory is based on station reports. Holeman's analysis is based on FCC standards for determining service areas in Alaska.

# Appendix A

## the North Star Concept

In response to a request, two members of the Alaska Cable Association recently prepared a plan for a commercial television network for Alaska. The plan, which they called the North Star Concept, was intended to show how commercial broadcasters could fill the gap left by the loss of RATNET and other state-supported broadcast services.

The plan was prepared on the assumption that there would be no state funding in the next fiscal year for RATNET or public broadcasting.

The North Star Concept would provide television service to 61 of the 121 communities that now get television only from RATNET. Thirty of these communities would receive six television channels, including the network channels, a PBS channel, an independent station, and an Alaska channel. The other thirty-one communities would receive only a single channel: the Alaska channel. A number of communities that have other television services would also receive the North Star programming. The North Star Concept also calls for transmission of one FM public radio station's programming.

This would not be a cable service. Local transmitters would be used to rebroadcast satellite signals in the way they are now used to broadcast RATNET programming. The capacity of the system would be seven channels. It would take assistance from the state to get the North Star system into operation in a short time. Even with state assistance, the plan's authors estimated it would take six months to a year to get the necessary FCC licenses. This means that a number of villages would have no broadcast services for several months, at a minimum.

Although this would be a commercial service, it would require a state subsidy. The cost of the North Star service is estimated at \$5.2 million a year for five years. The state would be expected to guarantee that amount. It was suggested the state could recover some of these costs by billing the villages.

The 60 communities that would lose television service under this plan are those with fewer than 50 households. It was judged uneconomic to provide service to these communities. If service was provided to these

communities, the cost to the state of the plan would jump to \$10.4 million annually for the five years.

This proposal -- by its limitations -- strongly indicates that the private sector can not provide at a reasonable cost services comparable to those now supported by the state. Even with a subsidy equal to half of what the state now spends on broadcasting, the North Star Concept offers sharply reduced services to Alaskans.

This proposal serves to underline a comment about RATNET made in a recent interview by Augie Hiebert, owner of Channel 11 in Anchorage: "They'll never have a more efficient means of bringing the outside world to the villages."

# Appendix B

## Sources

This report is based on a number of interviews conducted in February and March 1987 and on a number of documents. Professor Sylvia Broady, chair of the Department of Journalism and Public Communications, University of Alaska Anchorage, and Assistant Professor Doug Barry, also of the department, reviewed and provided comments on some parts of the report.

### Interviews

Bob Allison, Alaska Cable Association  
John Andrews, deputy commissioner, Department of Administration  
Dr. William Bramble, Department of Education  
Clyde Bloker, Alaska Division of Emergency Services  
Al Bramstedt Jr., general manager, KTUU-TV, Anchorage  
Richard Fineberg, Office of Management and Budget  
Augie Hiebert, owner, KTVA-TV, Anchorage  
Mel Hoversten, director, Division of Telecommunications, Department of Administration  
Henry Ivanoff, chairman, RATNET directors  
Diane Kaplan, Alaska Public Radio Network  
Ted Lehne, executive director, Alaska Telephone Association  
Edie Lynch, assistant vice chancellor for instructional technology, Anchorage Community College  
William McCaughan, Anchorage Community College, former director, Learn Alaska  
Arnold Melsheimer, RATNET board member  
Charles Northrip, director, Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission  
Michael Roberge, general manager, Cablevision, and president of Alaska Cable Association  
Roy Robinson, general manager, KFQD-AM and KWHL-FM, Anchorage, and president of Alaska Broadcasters Association  
Brian Rogers, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, chairman of budget transition team  
Elmo Sackett, general manager, KAKM public TV, Anchorage  
Bruce Smith, general manager, KSKA public radio, Anchorage  
Ted Sokoloff, chief engineer, Alaska Public Utilities Commission

### Documents

"FY '88 Capital Budget Request, Brief Description of Capital Projects," Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission,

Cable Television Primer, prepared by the engineering staff of Rock Associates, March 1987.

"Comments on Professor Larry Pearson's Final Recommendations on the Future of State Supported Public Broadcasting in Alaska as Submitted to the House Special Committee on Telecommunications," Charles M. Northrip, April 3, 1987.

"Employment/Volunteer Information From Public Broadcast Stations in Alaska," a handout, APBC, Feb. 9, 1986.

"FCC314, Application for Consent to Assignment of Broadcast Station Construction Permit or License," Federal Communications Commission.

Letter regarding RATNET and public broadcasting to Rep. H.A. "Red" Boucher from Jerry Brigham, general manager of KYUK AM/TV and RATNET Council member, March 17, 1987.

Letters to the House Special Committee on Telecommunications regarding proposed elimination of broadcast funding. A listing of the letters and some summary information about them are contained in Appendix C.

Letter and attachment regarding RATNET/APBC to Rep. Mike Davis from Commissioner Garrey Peska, Department of Administration, March 13, 1987.

"Measuring the Concept of Credibility," Journalism Quarterly, by Cecile Gaziano and Kristin McGrath, Autumn 1986.

Memorandum to Charles Northrip, executive director, APBC, from Herb Holeman, APBC engineer, re Station Coverage, Feb. 24, 1987.

Memorandum describing Ratnet, by Russell Nelson, Bristol Bay RATNET representative, Feb. 12, 1987.

Memorandum in response to "Final Recommendations of the Future of State Supported Broadcasting in Alaska," by Don Rinker, president and general manager, KT00, March 31, 1987.

Memorandum to Doug Humes, aide to Rep. H.A. "Red" Boucher, regarding effect of the loss of RATNET on statewide data delivery by Steve Smith, Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Feb. 23, 1987.

Minutes, RATNET board meetings of July 17, 1986; Sept. 11, 1986; and Nov. 13, 1986.

North Star Plan, a proposal presented by Michael Roberge and Bob Allison, March 1987

Public Broadcasting in Alaska: A Long-Range Plan, by the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission, 1986 and 1987 editions.

Report of Budget Transition Team, Subcommittee on General Government, Brian Rogers, chairman.

"Satellite Television Project," presented to the House Special Committee on Telecommunications by the Department of Administration, Feb. 4, 1987.

SECC/Alaska EBS (Emergency Broadcasting Service) Plans, January 1987 (one page).

State of Alaska Emergency Broadcast System Developmental Plan, Revised January 1987.

State of Alaska Telecommunications Operations and Services Annual Reports, January 1987.

State Sponsored Television in Alaska. Alternative for Delivery and Distribution, by Richard Rainery, Rural Research Agency for the Alaska State Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee, August 1984.

Talking to Each Other. Talking to Machines: Alaska's Telecommunication Future, by Larry Pearson and Doug Barry, report to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, January 1987.

Transcripts of testimony at hearings held by the House Special Committee on Telecommunications, Feb. 5, 10 and 12, and March 26, 1987.

"The Value and Need for State Funding for Alaskan Public Broadcasting Stations: A Perspective from KTOO-FM & TV," by Don Rinker, March 23, 1987.

# Appendix C

## Letters

Following is a list of letters regarding funding for the Rural Alaska Television Network channel and public broadcasting that were received by Rep. H.A. "Red" Boucher during January, February, March and April 1987 and read during the preparation of the preceding report.

A total of 128 letters are listed. Almost all of these (120 letters) called for continued funding for public broadcasting and/or RATNET. Forty-three letters called for continued funding of RATNET and 91 called for continued funding of public broadcasting. Some of the letters were in the form of resolutions from city councils and other groups; 353 signatures were attached to one of these letters.

More than a third of the public broadcast supporters called specifically for funding of public radio. Three supporters called for an income tax if necessary to assure continued funding while one endorsed a lottery, one called for a special tax and one called for use of the income from the Permanent Fund.

Types of programming that were described as especially valuable were news, public affairs and other informational programs (mentioned in 64 letters), entertainment (22 letters), educational programs (25 letters), message services (20 letters), and emergency warnings (12 letters). Six letter writers said state-supported broadcasting promotes rural-urban understanding. Several writers said it has mental health benefits for citizens in isolated areas.

Several of the letter writers were critical of cable as an alternative to state supported broadcasting, saying it is too expensive. One said its content isn't Alaska oriented.

Eight letters opposed continued funding of some part of the state supported broadcast system. Four letters -- three of them from commercial broadcasters in the Kenai Peninsula -- opposed funding for public radio in communities where commercial radio is available. One of these commercial broadcasters opposed any state funding for public radio. Three letters called for reduced funding for public radio. Two of these letters were from supporters of public radio in rural areas who felt that funding could be cut for urban public radio stations. The eighth letter called for the elimination of state funding for RATNET.

One letter writer, a commercial broadcaster in Southeast Alaska, did not take a position for or against continued funding for public broadcasting.

### **From public broadcasters**

Mary K. Barsdate, chairman, KUAC Policy Advisory Board, College, Feb. 12  
Deb Boetcher, KFSK, Petersburg, Feb. 11  
Jerry Brigham, general manager, KYUK AM/TV and RATNET council member, March 17  
Frances M. Chauvin, member, KUAC Policy Advisory Council, Fairbanks, March 26  
Sharon Gaipman, chairman of the board, Capital Community Broadcasting, Feb. 16  
LaVern Garton, general manager, KITYU-AM, Big River Public Broadcasting Corporation, Galena, March 12  
Michael C. Harrington, president, KSKO-AM, Kuskokwim Public Broadcasting Corporation, Feb. 12  
Barbara Karl, member, Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission, Anchorage, Feb. 18  
Rich McClear, general manager, KCAW, Raven Radio, Sitka, March 18  
Su Rappleye, acting general manager, KFSK, Narrows Broadcasting Corporation, Petersburg, Feb. 22  
Brad Reeve, general manager, KOTZ, Kotzebue, March 20  
Les Robinson, general manager, KDLG, Dillingham, March 20  
Krista Schaefer, KSTK, Wrangell Radio Group, March 24  
Alan L. Schmitt, president, Kodiak Public Broadcasting Corporation, Kodiak, Feb. 10  
Bruce Smith, general manager, KSKA, Anchorage, Feb. 5  
Gary R. Thomas, general manager, KBBI, Kachemak Bay Broadcasting, Inc., Homer, March 19

### **From RATNET members**

Jerry Brigham (see under public broadcasters)  
Linda Davidovics, Feb. 12  
Harold E. Hopper, Haines, March 22  
Russell Nelson, Dillingham, Feb. 16 (copy of letter to Gov. Cowper)  
Nellie Vale, Yakutat, March 25

### **From commercial broadcasters**

David F. Becker, owner and general manager, KPEN and KGTL, Homer, March 16  
David Headley, manager and news director, KRXA, Seward  
John Lindauer, KKEN, Kenai  
Bill Schwartz, KRSA, Petersburg, March 24

### **From other organizations, businesses**

Marie Adams, public information officer in mayor's office, Barrow, Feb. 18  
Doris Bailey, director, Alaska Arts Southeast, Sitka, March 26

Bill Brady, executive director, Sitka Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse, Sitka, Feb. 12  
 Terry A. Chase, mayor, McGrath, Feb. 17 (resolution in support of continued funding for public radio)  
 Jerry Covey, acting superintendant, Northwest Arctic School District, Kotzebue, Feb. 10  
 Marjorie W. Dunaway, program coordinator, Aleutians East Coastal Resource Service Area, Sand Point, April 3  
 Andy Durny, treasurer, Nulato City Council, March 27 (copy of letter sent to Gov. Cowper)  
 Bruce Finke, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Kodiak, Feb. 12  
 Oscar Frank Jr., community resources coordinator, Yukon-Tanana Subregion, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.  
 Patty A. Glackin, Electronic Design & Development, Inc., Haines, Feb. 20  
 Jim Gove, economic development director, City of Wrangell, Feb. 18  
 Jean K. Graves, library/media coordinator, Iditarod Area School District, McGrath, Feb. 12  
 Bob Greene, executive director, Association of Alaska School Boards, Juneau, Feb. 2  
 Sarah Hanuske-Hamilton, superintendent, and Byron R. Walton, 1st vice-chairman, Iditarod Area School District, McGrath, Feb. 18 (resolution in support of KSKO)  
 R.E. Henderson, mayor, Haines, Feb. 19  
 R.S. "Dick" Hindman, director, Petersburg Council on Alcoholism, Feb. 17  
 Gail Holzmuehler, president, Fairbanks Council for the Social Studies, Fairbanks, March 24 (letter with attached signatures of 353 teachers and administrators)  
 Ann D. Kirkwood, co-publisher, Wrangell Sentinel and Weekly Dial, Wrangell, March 16  
 April S. Lapham, mayor, Haines, March 20 (copy of letter sent to Gov. Cowper)  
 Urtha S. Lenharr and Alan Paradise, correspondence study teachers, Kotzebue, Feb. 10  
 Mary Lukens, correspondence teacher, McGrath, Feb. 12  
 Lon Matheson, principal, Kotzebue Middle School, Feb. 10  
 Nancy McGuire, editor, the Nome Nugget, Nome, March 19  
 Walter Sampson, NANA Regional Search and Rescue, Feb. 12  
 Shageluk City Council, resolution calling for continued funding for RATNET and APBC, accompanied by petition with 40 signatures, March 29  
 Charles E. Slajer, director, Hyder Community Association, Hyder, Feb. 10  
 Lois A. Stiegemeier, ITV education specialist, Instructional Center, Educational Program Support, Department of Education, March 19  
 Kenneth L. Suel, mayor, Chuathbaluk, and Beth A. Suel, March 27  
 Chow Taylor, local government specialist, Municipal and Regional Assistance Division, Department of Community and Regional Affairs, Feb. 16  
 Margaret K. Wood, director, Bristol Bay Rural Education Program, UAA, Dillingham, Feb. 20  
 Dr. William R. Wood, executive director, Festival Fairbanks, Feb. 10

### **From state legislators**

Rep. Peter Goll, March 28

### **From private individuals**

Kay Agnew, Anchorage, March 19  
Len Anderson, Kotzebue, Feb. 17  
Robert F. Balivet, Anchorage, Feb. 27  
Michel Baylor, Anchorage, Feb. 17  
Billie Benedict, Dillingham, Feb. 16  
Mark Berger, Cordova, Jan. 28 (forwarded by Rep. Betty Cato)  
Paul M. and Maria L. Crowl, Ketchikan, Feb. 10  
Nina K. Dahl and Barbara J. Janitscheck, Kotzebue, March 12  
Lloyd DeWilde, Huslia, March 5  
Joe Doerr, Petersburg  
Horace F. Drury, North Pole, Feb. 25  
Michale Edgington, Petersburg, Feb. 19  
Randolph Erickson, Haines, March 19  
Mrs. Robert Evanson, Kenny Cove, March 8 (letter to Rep. Betty Cato)  
Helen Finney, Ward Cove, Feb. 17  
Susan Fredricks, Skagway, Feb. 10  
Robert Fudge, Wrangell, Feb. 20  
Reginald E. Gates, Barrow, Feb. 19  
William and Marilyn George, Petersburg, March 27  
Judith Grau, North Pole, Feb. 23  
Constance F. Griffith, Ketchikan, Feb. 10  
Patricia Hand, Klawock  
Kent Hanson, Sitka, Feb. 10  
Stephen Haycox, Anchorage, Feb. 16  
Joanna Hearn, Sitka, Feb. 10  
Kurt Hoelting, Petersburg, March 3  
Karen Hofstad, Petersburg, March 5  
Constance Huber, Fairbanks, Feb. 23  
Billy J. Huffman, McGrath  
Barbara D. Kalen, Skagway, Feb. 12  
Mary Ann and Leo B. Kondro, Kake, March 15  
William C. Kurz, Haines, March 25  
Catherine LaRiviere, Sitka, Feb. 17  
Janice Latta, Whittier, March 27  
Dorcas Loudermilk, Kotzebue, March 4  
Laurene Madson, Kodiak, Feb. 20  
Lawrence Mark, Hyder, Feb. 10  
Brian McClear, Sitka, Feb. 28  
Doug McCoy, Galena, Feb. 10  
Sheila McFadden, Petersburg, Feb. 13 (with supplementary letters from  
Iolaire and Gabriel McFadden)  
John S. McGrath, Douglas, March 8  
Nan McNutt, Petersburg, Feb. 20

Don Morgan, Kotzebue, March 6  
 Anthony Mueller, Healy, Feb. 19  
 Al Near, Fairbanks, Feb. 24  
 Marjorie Rees, College, March 3 (copy of letter sent to Gov. Cowper)  
 Libby Riddles, Teller  
 Drew J. Rudgear, Fort Yukon, March 28  
 Richard and Sue Sant, Mary Louise Molenda, Fletcher and Jerry Burrus,  
     Anchorage (open letter to the Legislature)  
 David C. Schmitt, Petersburg, Feb. 22  
 Eleanor Smith, Sitka, Feb. 12  
 William A. Stelling, Anchorage, Feb. 9  
 Students in Dillingham (individual letters):  
     Everette Anderson                      Alesha Daugherty  
     Kerrie Ingram                           Missy Johansen  
     Larry Kiana                             Claude R. Kuyukin Jr.  
     Julia Rogers                             Tim Smith  
     Gail Stelling  
 John E. Svenson, Haines, March 22  
 Bob Taylor, Kotzebue, Feb. 12  
 Joseph Trubacz, North Pole, Feb. 23  
 Curtis E. Weiss, Klawock, Feb. 14  
 Mary A. Wilson, Kotzebue  
 Kirk Wollin, Sitka, Feb. 19  
 Minnie Woods, Klawock, Feb. 18  
 Karen Wright, Wrangell, March 27  
 Yvonne Yarber, Manley Hot Springs, Feb. 18  
 Nick Zerbinos, Glennallen, March 5  
 Bob Zorich, Petersburg, Feb. 17





COMMUNITIES WITH RADIO, TV, OR TELECONFERENCING

December, 1986

| COMMUNITY          | POPULATION | RAT-<br>NET | APBC<br>TV | OTHER<br>TV | APBC<br>RADIO | OTHER<br>RADIO | TELE-<br>CONF. | CABLE<br>TV |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| ADAK               | 3,169      | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| AKHIOK             | 107        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| AKIACHAK           | 378        |             | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| AKIAK              | 277        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| AKUTAN             | 185        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| ALAKANUK           | 461        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ALEKNAGIK          | 201        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| ALLAKAKET          | 175        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| AMBLER             | 262        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| ANAKTUVUK PASS     | 233        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ANCHOR POINT       | 317        | 1           | 1          | 1           |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| ANCHORAGE          | 243,829    |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ANDERSON           | 468        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ANGOON             | 470        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ANIAK              | 476        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| ANNETTE            | 143        |             |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| ANVIK              | 82         | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| ARCTIC VILLAGE     | 109        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| ATKA               | 80         | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| ATKASOOK           | 214        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| ATMAUTLUAK         | 261        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| BARROW             | 2,943      | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| BEAVER             | 65         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| BETHEL             | 3,681      | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| BEETLES            | 60         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| BIG DELTA          | 294        |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| BIG LAKE           | 684        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| BIRCH CREEK        | 31         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| BREVIK MISSION     | 151        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| BUCKLAND           | 249        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| BUTTE              | 448        |             |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| CANTWELL           | 87         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| CAPE POLE          | 30         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| CENTRAL            | 35         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| CHALKYTSIK         | 98         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| CHEFORNAK          | 268        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| CHENEGA BAY        |            |             |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| CHEVAK             | 532        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| CHIGNIK BAY        | 141        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| CHIGNIK LAGOON     | 46         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| CHIGNIK LAKE       | 153        | 1           |            | 1           | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| CHRISTOCHINA       | 43         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| CHITINA            | 33         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| CHUATHBALUK        | 98         | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| CHUGIAK            | 5224       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                | 1           |
| CIRCLE             | 101        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| CIRCLE HOT SPRINGS | 36         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| CLAM GULCH         | 141        |             |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| CLARK'S POINT      | 75         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| CLEAR              | 468        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| CLEARY SUMMIT      |            |             |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| COFFMAN COVE       | 199        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| COHOE              | 500        |             | 1          | 1           |               |                |                |             |

## COMMUNITIES WITH RADIO, TV, OR TELECONFERENCING

December, 1986

| COMMUNITY          | POPULATION | RAT-<br>NET | APBC<br>TV | OTHER<br>TV | APBC<br>RADIO | OTHER<br>RADIO | TELE-<br>CONF. | CABLE<br>TV |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| COLD BAY           | 246        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| COOPER LANDING     | 346        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| COPPER CENTER      | 219        | 1           |            | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| CORDOVA            | 2,108      | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| CORNER BAY         |            | 1           |            |             |               |                |                |             |
| COUNCIL            | 23         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| CRAIG              | 881        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| CROOKED CREEK      | 75         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| DEADHORSE          | 63         |             |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| DEERING            | 150        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| DELTA JUNCTION     | 1,163      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| DILLINGHAM         | 2,004      | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| DIOMEDE            | 153        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| DOT LAKE           | 69         | 1           | 1          | 1           |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| DUTCH HARBOR       |            | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| EAGLE              | 171        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| EAGLE RIVER        | 5817       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| EAGLE VILLAGE      | 56         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| EEK                | 259        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| EGEGIK             | 72         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| EIELSON AFB        | 7837       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| EIGHT FATHOM BIGHT |            | 1           |            |             |               |                |                |             |
| EKUK               | 7          | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| EKWOK              | 80         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| ELIM               | 248        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ELMENDORF AFB      | 6020       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                | 1           |
| EMMONAK            | 559        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ENGLISH BAY        | 172        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| ERNESTINE          |            | 1           |            | 1           |               | 1              |                |             |
| FAIRBANKS          | 27103      |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| FALSE PASS         | 76         | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| FT. GREELY         | 1832       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| FT. RICHARDSON     | 8960       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                | 1           |
| FT. WAINWRIGHT     | 9097       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                | 1           |
| FORT YUKON         | 665        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| FRESHWATER BAY     | 50         | 1           |            |             |               |                |                |             |
| GAKONA             | 70         | 1           |            | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| GALENA             | 894        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| GAMBELL            | 498        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| GIRDWOOD           | 150        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| GLENALLEN          | 477        | 1           |            | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| GOLOVIN            | 122        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| GOODNEWS BAY       | 230        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| GRAYLING           | 220        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| GULKANA            | 82         |             |            | 1           | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| GUSTAVUS           | 218        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| HAINES             | 1,154      | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| HALIBUT COVE       | 52         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| HEALY              | 327        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| HOBART BAY         |            | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| HOLLIS             |            | 1           |            |             |               |                |                |             |
| HOLY CROSS         | 191        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| HOMER              | 3,373      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |

## COMMUNITIES WITH RADIO, TV, OR TELECONFERENCING

December, 1986

| COMMUNITY          | POPULATION | RAT-<br>NET | APBC<br>TV | OTHER<br>TV | APBC<br>RADIO | OTHER<br>RADIO | TELE-<br>CONF. | CABLE<br>TV |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| HOONAH             | 803        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| HOOPER BAY         | 578        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| HOPE               | 195        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| HOUSTON            | 668        |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| HUGHES             | 97         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| HUSLIA             | 283        | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| HYDABURG           | 371        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| HYDER              | 79         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| IGIUGIG            | 32         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| ILIAMNA            | 90         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| IVANOF BAY         | 38         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| JUNEAU             | 23729      |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KACHEMAK           | 320        |             |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| KAKE               | 574        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KAKTOVIK           | 207        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| KALSKAG            | 145        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| KALTAG             | 262        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| KARLUK             | 90         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| KASAAN             | 70         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| KASIGLUK           | 355        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| KASILOF            | 567        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| KENAI              | 6,072      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KENNY LAKE         | 143        | 1           |            | 1           |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| KETCHIKAN          | 7,633      | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KIANA              | 402        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| KING COVE          | 521        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| KING SALMON        | 434        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KIPNUK             | 350        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| KIVALINA           | 294        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KLAWOCK            | 508        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KLUKWAN            | 239        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KOBUK              | 97         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KODIAK             | 6,069      | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KOKHANOK           | 80         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KOLIGANEK          | 112        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KONGIGANAK         | 166        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KOTLIK             | 412        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KOTZEBUE           | 2,345      | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| KOYUK              | 211        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| KOYUKUK            | 98         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| KWETHLUK           | 509        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| KWIGILLINGOK       | 246        |             | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| LABOUCHRE BAY      | 300        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| LARSEN BAY         | 214        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| LEVELOCK           | 76         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| LIME VILLAGE       | 33         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| LONG ISLAND        |            | 1           |            |             |               |                |                |             |
| LOWER KALSKAG      | 270        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| MANLEY HOT SPRINGS | 99         | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| MANOKOTAK          | 302        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| MARSHALL           | 281        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| MCGRATH            | 499        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| MEKORYUK           | 182        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |

COMMUNITIES WITH RADIO, TV, OR TELECONFERENCING

December, 1986

| COMMUNITY        | POPULATION | RAT-<br>NET | APBC<br>TV | OTHER<br>TV | APBC<br>RADIO | OTHER<br>RADIO | TELE-<br>CONF. | CABLE<br>TV |
|------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| MENTASTA LAKE    | 72         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| MESHIK           | 87         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| METLAKATLA       | 1,089      | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| MEYERS CHUCK     | 52         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| MINCHUMINA       | 20         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| MINTO            | 153        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| MOOSE PASS       | 143        | 1           | 1          | 1           |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| MOSQUITO LAKE    |            | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| MOUNTAIN VILLAGE | 610        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| MT. EDGE CUMBE   | 835        |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| NAKNEK           | 405        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| NAPAKIAK         | 319        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| NAPASKIAK        | 289        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NAUKATI BAY      | 140        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| NELSON LAGOON    | 64         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NENANA           | 544        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| NEW STUYAHOK     | 246        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| NEWHALEN         | 157        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NEWTOK           | 187        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NIGHTMUTE        | 134        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| MIKOLAEVSK       | 100        |             |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| NIKOLAI          | 100        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| NIKOLSKI         | 54         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NINILCHIK        | 427        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| NOATAK           | 355        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NOME             | 3,184      | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| NONDALTON        | 231        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NOORVIK          | 517        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| NORTH KENAI      | 3489       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| NORTH POLE       | 1005       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| NORTHWAY         | 116        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| NUIQSUT          | 305        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| NULATO           | 388        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| NUNAPITCHUK      | 357        |             | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| OLD HARBOR       | 405        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| OSCARVILLE       | 39         | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| OUZINKIE         | 240        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| PALMER           | 2772       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| PAXSON           | 24         | 1           |            | 1           | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| PEDRO BAY        | 32         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| PELICAN          | 206        | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| PERRYVILLE       | 107        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| PETERSBURG       | 3,137      | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| PILOT POINT      | 63         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| PILOT STATION    | 372        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| PITKAS POINT     | 67         | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| PLATINUM         | 64         |             |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| POINT BAKER      | 93         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| POINT HOPE       | 582        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| POINT LAY        | 67         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| PORT ALEXANDER   | 162        |             |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| PORT ALICE       | 135        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| PORT ALSWORTH    | 75         | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |

## COMMUNITIES WITH RADIO, TV, OR TELECONFERENCING

December, 1986

| COMMUNITY       | POPULATION | RAT-<br>NET | APBC<br>TV | OTHER<br>TV | APBC<br>RADIO | OTHER<br>RADIO | TELE-<br>CONF. | CABLE<br>TV |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| PORT GRAHAM     | 174        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| PORT HEIDEN     | 87         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| PORT LIONS      | 301        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| PORT MOLLER     | 37         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| PORT PROTECTION |            |             |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| PORTAGE CREEK   | 46         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| PRUDHOE BAY     | 49         |             |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| QUINHAGAK       | 424        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| RAMPART         | 49         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| RED DEVIL       | 27         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| ROWAN BAY       | 50         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| RUBY            | 283        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| RUSSIAN MISSION | 195        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SAINT GEORGE    | 172        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SAINT MARY'S    | 566        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SAINT MICHAEL   | 279        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SAINT PAUL      | 541        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SAND POINT      | 870        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| SAVOONGA        | 470        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SCAMMON BAY     | 296        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SELAWIK         | 635        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| SELDOVIA        | 435        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SEWARD          | 2,038      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SHAGELUK        | 148        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SHAKTOOLIK      | 186        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| SHELDON POINT   | 135        |             |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| SHISHMAREF      | 493        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| SHUNGNAK        | 238        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| SITKA           | 7,611      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SKAGWAY         | 761        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SLANA           | 39         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| SLEETMUTE       | 74         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                |                |             |
| SOLDOTNA        | 3,538      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| SOUTH NAKNEK    | 185        |             |            |             | 1             |                |                | 1           |
| SPARREVOHN      | 28         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| STEBBINS        | 327        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| STERLING        | 1,530      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| STEVENS VILLAGE | 94         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| STONEY RIVER    | 43         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| SUTTON          | 304        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| TAKOTNA         | 47         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| TALKEETNA       | 441        |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| TANACROSS       | 148        |             |            | 1           |               | 1              |                |             |
| TANANA          | 444        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| TATITLEK        | 54         | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| TELIDA          | 32         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| TELLER          | 257        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| TENAKEE SPRINGS | 156        | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| TETLIN          | 110        | 1           |            |             |               |                | 1              |             |
| THORNE BAY      | 392        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| TIN CITY        |            |             |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| TOGIK           | 554        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| TOK             | 608        | 1           |            | 1           |               | 1              | 1              |             |

COMMUNITIES WITH RADIO, TV, OR TELECONFERENCING

December, 1986

| COMMUNITY         | POPULATION | RAT-<br>NET | APBC<br>TV | OTHER<br>TV | APBC<br>RADIO | OTHER<br>RADIO | TELE-<br>CONF. | CABLE<br>TV |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| TOKSOOK BAY       | 365        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| TOLSONA           |            | 1           |            |             |               | 1              |                |             |
| TRAPPERS CREEK    | 350        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| TULUKSAK          | 272        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| TUNTUTULIAK       | 203        | 1           | 1          |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| TUNUNAK           | 333        | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| TWIN HILLS        | 67         | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              |             |
| TYONEK            | 302        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| UNALAKLEET        | 784        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| UNALASKA          | 1,630      | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| VALDEZ            | 3,687      | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| VENETIE           | 129        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| WAINWRIGHT        | 507        | 1           |            |             | 1             |                | 1              | 1           |
| WALES             | 136        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| WASILLA           | 3459       |             | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| WHALE PASS        | 93         | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| WHITE MOUNTAIN    | 150        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| WHITTIER          | 268        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| WILLOW            | 232        | 1           | 1          | 1           | 1             | 1              | 1              |             |
| WOMANS BAY        |            | 1           |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| WOODY ISLAND      | 5          |             |            |             | 1             | 1              |                |             |
| WRANGELL          | 2,376      | 1           | 1          |             | 1             | 1              | 1              | 1           |
| YAKUTAT           | 453        | 1           |            |             |               | 1              | 1              |             |
| (288 communities) | 479,918    | 248         | 85         | 53          | 404           | 433            | 233            | 91          |

Data extracted from: "Inventory of Communications Facilities  
Serving Alaska Communities -- 1987 Edition"

# COMMUNITIES RECEIVING RATNET

=====

|                                                                          | COMMUNITIES |        | ANNUAL<br>COST | POPULATION |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|----------------|------------|--------|
|                                                                          | =====       | =====  | =====          | =====      | =====  |
| and also receiving<br>commercial TV                                      | 32          | 12.9%  | 451.6          | 34,281     | 27.7%  |
| no commercial TV<br>but have cable TV                                    | 67          | 27.0%  | 945.6          | 66,754     | 53.8%  |
| no commercial or cable TV<br>but commercial radio                        | 89          | 35.9%  | 1,256.0        | 14,298     | 11.5%  |
| no commercial or cable TV<br>no commercial radio<br>but Teleconferencing | 44          | 17.7%  | 621.0 (*)      | 7,724      | 6.2%   |
| none of the above                                                        | 16          | 6.5%   | 225.8 (#)      | 924        | 0.7%   |
|                                                                          | -----       | -----  | -----          | -----      | -----  |
|                                                                          | 248         | 100.0% | 3,500.0        | 123,981    | 100.0% |

(\*)

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| AKUTAN         | 185 |
| AMBLER         | 262 |
| ANIAK          | 476 |
| ATKA           | 80  |
| ATMAUTLUAK     | 261 |
| CHIGNIK BAY    | 141 |
| CHIGNIK LAGOON | 46  |
| CLARK'S POINT  | 75  |
| EEK            | 259 |
| EKWOK          | 80  |
| FALSE PASS     | 76  |
| GOODNEWS BAY   | 230 |
| HUSLIA         | 283 |
| IVANOF BAY     | 38  |
| KIVALINA       | 294 |
| KLUKWAN        | 239 |
| KOBUK          | 97  |
| KOKHANOK       | 80  |
| KOLIGANEK      | 112 |
| KONGIGANAK     | 166 |
| KWETHLUK       | 509 |
| MOSQUITO LAKE  |     |
| NAPASKIAK      | 289 |
| NELSON LAGOON  | 64  |
| NEWHALEN       | 157 |
| NEWTOK         | 187 |
| NIGHTMUTE      | 134 |
| NIKOLSKI       | 54  |
| NOATAK         | 355 |
| NONDALTON      | 231 |
| NOORVIK        | 517 |
| OSCARVILLE     | 39  |
| PELTON         | 206 |

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| PERRYVILLE      | 107 |
| PORT ALSWORTH   | 75  |
| PORT HEIDEN     | 87  |
| STONEY RIVER    | 43  |
| TELIDA          | 32  |
| TENAKEE SPRINGS | 156 |
| TETLIN          | 110 |
| TRAPPERS CREEK  | 350 |
| TULUKSAK        | 272 |
| TUNTUTULIAK     | 203 |
| TWIN HILLS      | 67  |

7,724

(#)

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| CHUATHBALUK        | 98  |
| CORNER BAY         |     |
| DUTCH HARBOR       |     |
| EIGHT FATHOM BIGHT |     |
| EKUK               | 7   |
| FRESHWATER BAY     | 50  |
| HOLLIS             |     |
| ILIAMNA            | 90  |
| KALSKAG            | 145 |
| LONG ISLAND        |     |
| LOWER KALSKAG      | 270 |
| MESHIK             | 87  |
| MINCHUMINA         | 20  |
| PORT MOLLER        | 37  |
| PORTAGE CREEK      | 46  |
| SLEETMUTE          | 4   |

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224

COMMUNITIES RECEIVING PUBLIC TV  
=====

|                                                                          | COMMUNITIES<br>===== |        | ANNUAL<br>COST<br>===== | POPULATION<br>===== |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| and also receiving<br>commercial TV                                      | 43                   | 50.6%  | 1,416.5                 | 385,498             | 92.9%  |
| no commercial TV<br>but have cable TV                                    | 19                   | 22.4%  | 625.9                   | 24,380              | 5.9%   |
| no commercial or cable TV<br>but commercial radio                        | 9                    | 10.6%  | 296.5                   | 1,589               | 0.4%   |
| no commercial or cable TV<br>no commercial radio<br>but Teleconferencing | 11                   | 12.9%  | 362.4                   | (*) 2,907           | 0.7%   |
| none of the above                                                        | 3                    | 3.5%   | 98.8                    | (#) 513             | 0.1%   |
|                                                                          | -----                | -----  | -----                   | -----               | -----  |
|                                                                          | 85                   | 100.0% | 2,800.0                 | 414,887             | 100.0% |

(\*)

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| ANIAC        | 476   |
| ATMAUTLUAK   | 261   |
| EEK          | 259   |
| KONGIGANAK   | 166   |
| KWETHLUK     | 509   |
| KWIGILLINGOK | 246   |
| NAPASKIAK    | 289   |
| NEWTOK       | 187   |
| OSCARVILLE   | 39    |
| TULUKSAK     | 272   |
| TUNTUTULIAK  | 203   |
| -----        | ----- |
|              | 2,907 |

(#)

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| CHUATHBALUK   | 98    |
| KALSKAG       | 145   |
| LOWER KALSKAG | 270   |
| -----         | ----- |
|               | 513   |

# COMMUNITIES RECEIVING PUBLIC RADIO

=====

|                                                                          | COMMUNITIES<br>===== |        | ANNUAL<br>COST<br>===== | POPULATION<br>===== |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| and also receiving<br>commercial radio                                   | 131                  | 64.2%  | 2,247.5                 | 433,357             | 95.5%  |
| no commercial radio<br>but commercial TV                                 | 1                    | 0.5%   | 17.2                    | 153                 | .0%    |
| no commercial radio or TV<br>but cable TV                                | 22                   | 10.8%  | 377.5                   | 12,045              | 2.7%   |
| no commercial or cable TV<br>no commercial radio<br>but Teleconferencing | 38                   | 18.6%  | 652.0 (*)               | 7,048               | 1.6%   |
| none of the above                                                        | 12                   | 5.9%   | 205.9 (*)               | 937                 | 0.2%   |
|                                                                          | -----                | -----  | -----                   | -----               | -----  |
|                                                                          | 204                  | 100.0% | 3,500.0                 | 453,540             | 100.0% |

(\*)

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| AKUTAN         | 185 |
| AMBLER         | 262 |
| ANIAK          | 476 |
| AIMAUTLUAK     | 261 |
| CHIGNIK BAY    | 141 |
| CHIGNIK LAGOON | 46  |
| CLARK'S POINT  | 75  |
| EEK            | 259 |
| EKWOK          | 80  |
| GOODNEWS BAY   | 230 |
| IVANOF BAY     | 38  |
| KIVALINA       | 294 |
| KLUKWAN        | 239 |
| KOBUK          | 97  |
| KOKHANDOK      | 80  |
| KOLIGANEK      | 112 |
| KONGIGANAK     | 166 |
| KWETHLUK       | 509 |
| KWIGILLINGOK   | 246 |
| NAPASKIAK      | 289 |
| NELSON LAGOON  | 64  |
| NEWHALEN       | 157 |
| NEWTOK         | 187 |
| NIGHTMUTE      | 134 |
| NIKOLSKI       | 54  |
| NOATAK         | 355 |
| NONDALTON      | 231 |
| NOURVIK        | 517 |
| OSCARVILLE     | 39  |
| PERRYVILLE     | 107 |
| PLATINUM       | 64  |
| PORT HEIDEN    | 87  |
| STONEY RIVER   | 42  |

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| TELIDA         | 32    |
| TRAPPERS CREEK | 350   |
| TULUKSAK       | 272   |
| TUNTUTULIAK    | 203   |
| TWIN HILLS     | 67    |
|                | ----- |
|                | 7,048 |

(#)

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| CHUATHBALUK   | 98    |
| DEADHORSE     | 63    |
| DUTCH HARBOR  |       |
| EKUK          | 7     |
| ILIAMNA       | 90    |
| KALSKAG       | 145   |
| LOWER KALSKAG | 270   |
| MESHIK        | 87    |
| MINCHUMINA    | 20    |
| PORT MOLLER   | 37    |
| PORTAGE CREEK | 46    |
| SLEETMUTE     | 74    |
|               | ----- |
|               | 937   |

COMMUNITIES WITH NO OTHER RADIO OR TV  
EXCEPT FOR RATNET AND/OR APBC

|                    | POPULATION |                 | POPULATION |
|--------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| AKUTAN             | 185        | PORT ALSWORTH   | 75         |
| AMBLER             | 262        | PORT HEIDEN     | 87         |
| ANIAK              | 476        | PORT MOLLER     | 37         |
| ATKA               | 80         | PORTAGE CREEK   | 46         |
| ATMAUTLUAK         | 261        | SLEETMUTE       | 74         |
| CHIGNIK BAY        | 141        | STONEY RIVER    | 43         |
| CHIGNIK LAGOON     | 46         | TELIDA          | 32         |
| CHUATHBALUK        | 98         | TENAKEE SPRINGS | 156        |
| CLARK'S POINT      | 75         | TETLIN          | 110        |
| CORNER BAY         |            | TRAPPERS CREEK  | 350        |
| DEADHORSE          | 63         | TULUKSAK        | 272        |
| DUTCH HARBOR       |            | TUNTUTULIAK     | 203        |
| EEK                | 259        | TWIN HILLS      | 67         |
| EIGHT FATHOM BIGHT |            |                 | -----      |
| EKUK               | 7          | 63 communities  | 9,021      |
| EKWOK              | 80         |                 |            |
| FALSE PASS         | 76         |                 |            |
| FRESHWATER BAY     | 50         |                 |            |
| GOODNEWS BAY       | 230        |                 |            |
| HOLLIS             |            |                 |            |
| HUSLIA             | 283        |                 |            |
| ILIAMNA            | 90         |                 |            |
| IVANOF BAY         | 38         |                 |            |
| KALSKAG            | 145        |                 |            |
| KIVALINA           | 294        |                 |            |
| KLUKWAN            | 239        |                 |            |
| KOBUK              | 97         |                 |            |
| KOKHANOK           | 80         |                 |            |
| KOLIGANEK          | 112        |                 |            |
| KONGIGANAK         | 166        |                 |            |
| KWETHLUK           | 509        |                 |            |
| KWIGILLINGOK       | 246        |                 |            |
| LONG ISLAND        |            |                 |            |
| LOWER KALSKAG      | 270        |                 |            |
| MESHIK             | 87         |                 |            |
| MINCHUMINA         | 20         |                 |            |
| MOSQUITO LAKE      |            |                 |            |
| NAPASKIAK          | 289        |                 |            |
| NELSON LAGOON      | 64         |                 |            |
| NEWHALEN           | 157        |                 |            |
| NEWTOK             | 187        |                 |            |
| NIGHTMUTE          | 134        |                 |            |
| NIKOLSKI           | 54         |                 |            |
| NOATAK             | 355        |                 |            |
| NONDALTON          | 231        |                 |            |
| NOORVIK            | 517        |                 |            |
| OSCARVILLE         | 39         |                 |            |
| PELICAN            | 206        |                 |            |
| PERRYVILLE         | 107        |                 |            |
| PLATINUM           | 64         |                 |            |

COMMUNITIES WITH NO OTHER RADIO OR TV  
EXCEPT FOR RATNET AND/OR APBC  
AND WITHOUT TELECONFERENCING FACILITY

|                    | POPULATION |
|--------------------|------------|
| CHUATHBALUK        | 98         |
| CORNER BAY         |            |
| DEADHORSE          | 63         |
| DUTCH HARBOR       |            |
| EIGHT FATHOM BIGHT |            |
| EKUK               | 7          |
| FRESHWATER BAY     | 50         |
| HOLLIS             |            |
| ILIAMNA            | 90         |
| KALSKAG            | 145        |
| LONG ISLAND        |            |
| LOWER KALSKAG      | 270        |
| MESHIK             | 87         |
| MINCHUMINA         | 20         |
| PORT MOLLER        | 37         |
| PORTAGE CREEK      | 46         |
| SLEETMUTE          | 74         |
|                    | -----      |
| 17 communities     | 987        |

3-24-87

Meeting

# Alaska State Legislature

POUCH V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-4931

DISTRICT 10  
BOX 111038  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99511  
(907) 349-2192



CHAIRMAN  
Special Committee on  
Telecommunications

MEMBER  
Labor and Commerce  
State Affairs  
Finance—Subcommittee Administration

Representative H. A. "Red" Boucher

## PRESS RELEASE

MARCH 24, 1987

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
DOUG HUMES 465-4931

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
-----

### STATE SUPPORTED BROADCASTING SUBJECT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE TV/RADIO CALL-IN HEARING

Representative H.A. "Red" Boucher, Chairman of the House Special Committee on Telecommunications, announced today that the Committee would hold a special hearing on the subject of state-supported broadcasting. The format of the hearing will be a statewide call-in program which will be produced at the KTOO TV station in Juneau. The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 26, from 8 to 9 PM, and will be broadcast live over RATNET, Public TV and Public radio.

TV viewers and radio listeners across the state will be able to call the Committee with testimony or questions using a toll free number, 1-800-478-3636. In Juneau, the number is 586-3636. People with questions can call between 4-7 PM on Thursday, or during the hearing.

The Committee will use the statewide broadcast network to take testimony from people who were not able to testify during previous teleconference hearings. This will be the last public hearing prior to the Committee submitting final recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature.

# Alaska State Legislature

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State Affairs  
Finance—Subcommittee Administration

**Representative H. A. "Red" Boucher**

HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
MARCH 24-26, 1987  
(\* Indicates First Public Hearing)

COURT 603  
465-4931

3:30 PM  
Tues, Thurs

Tuesday, March 24, 1987

Joint Meeting with House Finance Subcommittee on Department  
of Labor

The use of data processing within the department, and  
tie-in with the state data network.

Thursday, March 26, 1987

Committee review of Professor Pearson's final  
recommendations on state supported broadcasting.

Other Committee business.

-----  
Thursday, March 26, 1987  
KTOO Recording Studio, 224 4th St., Juneau.  
8-9 PM

State-wide call-in on state supported broadcasting.  
Simulcast on RATNET, Public TV and radio.

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CHAIRMAN  
Special Committee on  
Telecommunications

MEMBER  
Labor and Commerce  
State Affairs  
Finance—Subcommittee Administration

Representative H. A. "Red" Boucher

TO: TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FROM: H.A. "RED" BOUCHER  
CHAIRMAN

DATE: MARCH 24, 1987

SUBJECT: STATE-SUPPORTED BROADCASTING / STATEWIDE CALL-IN  
-----

\* This will be an official committee meeting.

\* The meeting will be carried live, statewide, on the RATNET, Public TV and Public Radio stations.

\* The program will last from 8 to 9 PM, Thursday, March 26.  
PLEASE BE AT THE STUDIO 15 MINUTES EARLY TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE EQUIPMENT.

\* The program will be broadcast from the KTOO studio at 224 4th St., Juneau (586-1695).

\* Listeners and viewers will have the opportunity to call-in with questions or comments, using a toll free telephone number.

- The calls will be screened for geographic and content diversity.

- There will time for only 15-20 questions.

\* Committee members will be fitted with a lapel microphone and an ear piece. If you have a preference for either a left or right ear piece, please contact Jim Mayhem at KTOO, 586 1695.

3-31-87

Meeting

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FISCHER, BINKLEY  
AND KERTTULA

2

SENATE BILL NO. 36

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to Amateur Radio Week."

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

8 \* Section 1. AS 44.12 is amended by adding a new section to read:

9

Sec. 44.12.200. OBSERVANCE OF AMATEUR RADIO WEEK. To increase

10

public awareness of the vital importance of amateur radio to the life

11

and safety of the citizens of the state, each year the governor shall

12

issue a proclamation designating as Amateur Radio Week the week in

13

June that includes the fourth Saturday of the month.

STATE OF ALASKA 1987 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
FISCAL NOTE

SENATE  
BILL VERSION: SB 36  
PUBLISH DATE: 2/3/87

REQUEST

Revision Date:  
Title: An Act relating to Amateur  
Radio Week  
Sponsor: P. Fischer  
Requestor: P. Fischer

Agency Affected: A11

BRU:

Components:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

| OPERATING         | FY 87 | FY 88 | FY 89 | FY 90 | FY 91 | FY 92 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| TRAVEL            | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| CONTRACTUAL       | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| SUPPLIES          | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| EQUIPMENT         | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| LAND & STRUCTURES | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| MISCELLANEOUS     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| TOTAL OPERATING   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |

|         |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CAPITAL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|

|         |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| REVENUE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

|               |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| GENERAL FUND  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| OTHER         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL         | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

POSITIONS:

|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FULL-TIME | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PART-TIME | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TEMPORARY | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared By: Michael P. McMullen Phone: 465-2200  
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 1/30/87

Approved by Commissioner: Garrey Peska Date: 1/31/87  
Agency: Department of Administration

Distribution (by preparer):  
Legislative Finance  
Legislative Sponsor  
Requestor  
Office of Management and Budget  
Impacted Agency(ies)  
Senate Secretary

4-2-87

Meeting

Introduced: 1/19/87  
Referred: House Special Committee  
on Telecommunications and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BOUCHER

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 40

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act creating the Telecommunications Information  
Agency in the Office of the Governor; and providing  
for an effective date."

7

8

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

10 \* Section 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to establish an  
11 agency to develop and implement a cost-effective policy for managing the  
12 state's information and information technology resources in a comprehensive  
13 and coordinated manner so that state government may better serve the people  
14 of the state.

15 \* Sec. 2. AS 44.19 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 ARTICLE 16. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION AGENCY.

17 Sec. 44.19.502. TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION AGENCY. There is  
18 created within the Office of the Governor the Telecommunications  
19 Information Agency.

20 Sec. 44.19.504. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROCUREMENTS. (a) A  
21 department or agency in the executive or legislative branches may not  
22 make a procurement for information technology that exceeds \$25,000  
23 unless the Telecommunications Information Agency approves.

24 (b) The Telecommunications Information Agency shall develop a  
25 procurement policy consistent with the State Procurement Code (AS 36.-  
26 30) for procurement, contracting, construction, and maintenance of  
27 information technology. The procurement policy must seek to achieve  
28 the maximum benefit to the public, and methods of procurement, includ-  
29 ing lease, purchase, rental, or combinations of lease, purchase, and