

By Senator Rich

34-02571A-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the public broadcasting program system;
3 amending s. 1001.26, F.S.; including certain television
4 stations licensed by the Federal Communications Commission
5 for which support and funding may be given; providing an
6 effective date.

7
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph
11 (c) of subsection (2) of section 1001.26, Florida Statutes, are
12 amended to read:

13 1001.26 Public broadcasting program system.--

14 (1) There is created a public broadcasting program system
15 for the state. The department shall administer this program
16 system pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Education.
17 This program system must complement and share resources with the
18 instructional programming service of the Department of Education
19 and educational UHF, VHF, ITFS, and FM stations in the state. The
20 program system must include:

21 (a) Support for existing Corporation for Public
22 Broadcasting qualified program system educational radio and
23 television stations, ~~and~~ and new stations meeting Corporation for
24 Public Broadcasting qualifications and providing a first service
25 to an audience that does not currently receive a broadcast signal
26 or providing a significant new program service as defined by rule
27 by the State Board of Education, and nondenominational television
28 stations licensed as of July 1, 2008, by the Federal

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29 Communications Commission as full-power educational broadcast
30 stations.

31 (2)

32 (c) The department is authorized to provide equipment,
33 funds, and other services to extend and update both the existing
34 and the proposed educational television and radio systems of tax-
35 supported and nonprofit, corporate-owned facilities. All stations
36 funded must be qualified by the Corporation for Public
37 Broadcasting or be nondenominational television stations licensed
38 as of July 1, 2008, by the Federal Communications Commission as
39 full-power educational broadcast stations. New stations eligible
40 for funding shall provide a first service to an audience that is
41 not currently receiving a broadcast signal or provide a
42 significant new program service as defined by State Board of
43 Education rules. Funds appropriated to the department for
44 educational television and funds appropriated to the department
45 for educational radio may be used by the department for either
46 educational television or educational radio, or for both.

47 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.