

By Senator Sobel

31-00546-09

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

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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  
17           Education. This program system must complement and share  
18           resources with the instructional programming service of the  
19           Department of Education and educational UHF, VHF, ITFS, and FM  
20           stations in the state. The 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  
26           signal or providing a significant new program service as defined  
27           by rule by the State Board of Education, and nondenominational  
28           television stations licensed as of July 1, 2009, by the Federal  
29           Communications Commission as full-power educational broadcast

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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  
35 tax-supported and nonprofit, corporate-owned facilities. All  
36 stations funded must be qualified by the Corporation for Public  
37 Broadcasting or be nondenominational television stations  
38 licensed as of July 1, 2009, by the Federal Communications  
39 Commission as full-power educational broadcast stations. New  
40 stations eligible for funding shall provide a first service to  
41 an audience that is not currently receiving a broadcast signal  
42 or provide a significant new program service as defined by State  
43 Board of Education rules. Funds appropriated to the department  
44 for educational television and funds appropriated to the  
45 department for educational radio may be used by the department  
46 for either educational television or educational radio, or for  
47 both.

48 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.