

2008

**HOUSE SELECT
COMMITTEE ON
TELEVISIONING HOUSE
SESSIONS**

MINUTES

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS
MEMBERSHIP LIST

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman
P. O. Box 1269
Blowing Rock, NC 28605
Culliet@ncleg.net
(828) 295-3353

Representative Linda Coleman
201 Kirvin Ct.
Knightdale, NC 27545
Lindac@ncleg.net
(919) 266-9037 266-1883 (F)

Representative Margaret Highsmith Dickson
501 Valley Rd.
Fayetteville, NC 28305
Margaretd@ncleg.net
(910) 977-8937 484-1829 (F)

Representative Ric Killian
1010 Legislative Building
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Rick@ncleg.net
(919) 733-5886

Representative Grier Martin
2203 Byrd St.
Raleigh, NC 27608
Grierm@ncleg.net
(919) 781-8218

Representative Mitchell Setzer
P. O. Box 416
Catawba, NC 28609
Mitchells@ncleg.net
(828) 241-3570 241-2382 (F)

Representative Thom Tillis
17209 Green Dolphin Ln
Cornelius, NC 28031
Thomt@ncleg.net
(704) 248-2980 501-1555 (F)

CLERK: Linda Neal
Room 2221, LB
Tarletonla@ncleg.net
(919) 733-7727

RESEARCH: Brenda Carter
Room: 200 LOB
Brendac@ncleg.net
(919) 733-2578 715-8365 (F)

Heather Fennell
Room 545 LOB
Heatherf@ncleg.net
(919) 733-2578 715-5460 (F)

ISD: Peter Capriglione
Room 400 LOB
Peterc@ncleg.net
(919) 715-7840 715-7586 (F)

ADVISORY MEMBER

Denise Weeks
Room 2319 LB
Denisew@ncleg.net
(919) 733-7760 715-2881 (F)

10/8/2008

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions Member Information				
Name	Room No.	Office No.	Home No.	Cell Phone No.
Rep. Cullie Tarleton, Chair	2221	733-7727	828.295.3353	828.773.3620
Rep. Linda Coleman	301-N	733.5974	919.266.9037	919.413.3690
Rep. Margaret H. Dickson	1219	733.5776	910.483.0917	910.977.8937
Rep. Ric Killian	1010	733.5886	704.544.2832	704.201.0444
Rep. Grier Martin	2123	733.5758	919.781.8218	919.602.2725
Rep. Mitchell Setzer	1204	733.4948	828.241.3570	828.244.9752
Rep. Thom Tillis	1002	733.5828	704.248.2980	704.728.9239



Office of the Speaker
North Carolina House of Representatives
Raleigh 27601-1096

JOE HACKNEY
SPEAKER

September 10, 2008

The Honorable Cullie M. Tarleton
North Carolina House of Representatives
Legislative Building, Room 2221
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear Representative Tarleton:

Pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly, I am pleased to appoint you to serve as Chair of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions. Your appointment is effective immediately and will expire when the Committee terminates upon filing its final report or upon the convening of the 2009 General assembly, whichever occurs first.

Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity. I am deeply grateful for people like you who are willing to give their time and talent to move North Carolina forward. I know that you will have much to offer the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions will be effective and diligent in your service to our State.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Hackney".

Joe Hackney

JH:ar

Copy: Governor Michael F. Easley
Lieutenant Governor Beverly E. Perdue
The Honorable Marc Basnight
The Honorable Elaine Marshall
Denise Weeks, House Principal Clerk
Janet Pruitt, Senate Principal Clerk

George Hall, Legislative Services Officer
Kory Goldsmith, Director of Research
Office of the State Controller
State Library
Legislative Library

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Allen Rogers (Speaker Hackney's Office)
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2008 7:14 PM
To: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton; Rep. Linda Coleman; Rep. Margaret H. Dickson; Rep. Ric Killian; Rep. Grier Martin; Rep. Mitchell Setzer; Rep. Thom Tillis; Denise Weeks (House Principal Clerk); Rep. Joe Hackney (Speaker)
Cc: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton); Cassie Lester (Rep. Coleman); Brenda Lee (Rep. Dickson); Jackie Milazzo (Rep. Killian); Sylvia Hammons (Rep. Martin); Carol Wakely (Rep. Tillis); George Hall (Legislative Services Officer); Laura DeVivo (Speaker Hackney); Bill Holmes (Speaker Hackney's Office); Amy Fulk (Pres Pro Tem's Office); Joanna Mills (Rep. Setzer); Agnes Perry (Fiscal Research); Allen Rogers (Speaker Hackney's Office); Anne Canady (Lt. Gov. Perdue); Archives and History; Beverly Adams (Legislative Services Office); Bill Holmes (Speaker Hackney's Office); Board of Ethics; Brian Peck; Canaan Huie (Speaker Hackney's Office); Carol Bowers; Carol Wooten; Cheryl McLean; Christin Danchi; Christy Henson (Research/Library); Dianne Russell (House Legislative Assistants Director); Don Willis (House Majority Leader's Office); Emily Reynolds (Speaker Hackney's Office); Gloria McLaughlin (Financial Services); Governor's Office; Gwen Canady; Janet Pruitt; Jim McElroy (HPC's Office); Laura DeVivo (Speaker Hackney); Lea Dunn Tackett (Pres Pro Tem's Office); Lesley Cates (Speaker Hackney's Office); Lucille Thompson (Speaker's Office); Lucy Anders (Research); Meredith Swindell (Speaker Hackney's Office); Michelle Adams (HPC's Office); perry.newson@ncmail.net; Rep. Hugh Holliman; Rep. Joe Hackney (Speaker); Rep. Paul Stam; Robin Johnson (Speaker Hackney's Office); Rodney Bass (Financial Services); Secretary of State; Wesley Taylor (Financial Services, Controller); Zadia Brown (Speaker Hackney's Office)
Subject: Televising House Sessions, House Select Committee on --- Appointments by Speaker Joe Hackney

Attachments: Televising Sessions Authorization 8 9 08.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsTarletonChair.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsColeman.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsDickson.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsKillian.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsMartin.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsSetzer.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsTillis.doc; TelevisingHouseSessionsWeeksAdvisory.doc

Speaker Hackney has appointed the following to the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions.

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair
Representative Linda Coleman
Representative Margaret Dickson
Representative Ric Killian
Representative Grier Martin
Representative Mitch Setzer
Representative Thom Tillis
Denise Weeks, Advisory Member

Copies of the appointment letters and a copy of the Committee Authorization are attached.



Televising Sessions
Authorizat...



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsTarleto...



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsColeman...



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsDickson...



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsKillian...



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsMartin....



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsSetzer....



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsTillis....



TelevisingHouseSes
sionsWeeksAd...

If there are questions please contact our office.

Allen Rogers

Allen Rogers
Office of Speaker Hackney
919-733-3451
allenr@ncleg.net

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
House Select Committee Televising House Sessions
2007 – 2008 SESSION



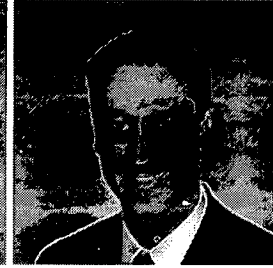
**Rep. Cullie Tarleton,
Chairman**



Rep. Linda Coleman



**Rep. Maragaret Highsmith
Dickson**



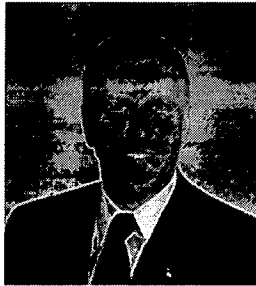
Rep. Ric Killian



Rep. Grier Martin



Rep. Mitchell Setzer



Rep. Thom Tillis

**Name
Vice chair**

**Name
Vice chair**

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name

Name



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Legislative Services Office

George R. Hall, Legislative Services Officer

Research Division
300 N. Salisbury Street, Suite 545
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925
Tel. 919-733-2578 Fax 919-715-5460

Kory Goldsmith
Interim Director

September 15, 2008

The Honorable Cullie Tarleton, Chair
House Select Committee on Televising
House Sessions
North Carolina House of Representatives
16 West Jones Street, Room 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Dear Representative Tarleton:

I congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions.

I have asked Ms. Brenda Carter and Ms. Heather Fennell, with the Research Division, and Mr. Peter Capriglione, with the Information Systems Division, to serve as staff to the Committee. In accordance with the Committee's directions as expressed through the Chair, they will aid in all aspects of the Committee's work.

Should you wish to contact Ms. Carter or Ms. Fennell, they may be reached by telephone at (919) 733-2578. Mr. Capriglione may be reached at (919) 733-6834.

I enclose a copy of the authorization, which includes a list of the membership of the Committee.

My best wishes go to the Committee in conducting its work. If I may be of any service to you or the Committee, please contact me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kory J. Goldsmith".

Kory J. Goldsmith
Interim Director of Research

KJG/lba
Enclosure

cc: Hon. Joe Hackney, Speaker
Mr. George Hall
Mr. Dennis McCarty
Ms. Brenda Carter

Ms. Heather Fennell
Mr. Peter Capriglione
Mr. Brian Peck
Ms. Christy Henson



Office of Speaker Joe Hackney
North Carolina House of Representatives
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1. The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions (hereinafter "Committee") is established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

Section 2. The Committee consists of the 8 members listed below, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives may dissolve the Committee at any time.

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair
Representative Linda Coleman
Representative Margaret Dickson
Representative Ric Killian
Representative Grier Martin
Representative Mitch Setzer
Representative Thom Tillis
Denise Weeks, Advisory Member

Section 3. The Committee shall study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The Committee shall review and assess current television access to State Government and how it compares to other states and the federal government. The committee shall study any other related matter.

Section 4. The Committee shall meet upon the call of its Chairs. A quorum of the Committee shall be a majority of its members.

Section 5. The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes.

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS

Section 6. Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as provided in G.S. 120-3.1.

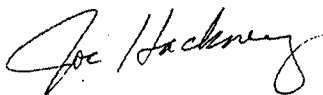
Section 7. The expenses of the Committee including per diem, subsistence, travel allowances for Committee members, and contracts for professional or consultant services shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-32.02(c) and G.S. 120-35 from funds available to the House of Representatives for its operations. Individual expenses of \$5,000 or less, including per diem, travel, and subsistence expenses of members of the Committee, and clerical expenses shall be paid upon the authorization of the Chair of the Committee. Individual expenses in excess of \$5,000 shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 8. The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical support staff to the Committee.

Section 9. The Committee may meet at various locations around the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

Section 10. The Committee shall submit a final report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the House of Representatives on or before December 31, 2008, by filing the final report with the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the House Principal Clerk, and the Legislative Library. The Committee terminates on December 31, 2008, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

Effective this 9th day of September 2008.



Joe Hackney
Speaker

9/9/2008 3:39 PM

ATTENDANCE

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

(Name of Committee)

DATES	10-01-2008	10-21-2008	11-17-08	12-1-08	12-18-08														
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓														
Representative Linda Coleman	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓														
Rep. Margaret Highsmith Dickson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓														
Representative Ric Killian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓														
Representative Grier Martin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓														
Representative Mitchell Setzer	✓	✓	✓	-	-														
Representative Thom Tillis	-	✓	✓	✓	✓														
Denise Weeks, Advisory Member	-	✓	✓	✓															
<i>Note: (10-1-08)</i>																			
<i>Rep Tillis out of country</i>																			
<i>Denise @ conference</i>																			
<i>Note: (10-21-08)</i>																			
<i>Rep. Coleman out</i>																			
<i>Rep Dickerson out</i>																			
<i>12-1-08</i>																			
<i>Rep. Setzer out</i>																			
<i>12-18-08 out</i>																			
<i>Rep Martin</i>																			
<i>Rep Dickson</i>																			
<i>Rep Tillis</i>																			

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Peter Capriglione (ISD, Applications Manager)
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2008 12:59 PM
To: Emma Griffith (Financial Services)
Cc: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: Travel reimbursement for Steve Senyk - question

Emma,

We had Mr. Steve Senyk speak at the 10-21-2008 meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising Legislative Sessions.

We wanted Mr. Senyk here on the Monday 10-20, before the meeting so staff could go over his presentation and give him the lay of the land.

After looking at the air travel costs for a Sunday travel to NC from Minnesota, the airfare of \$967, compared to a Saturday flight of \$359 dollars, it was decided that the hotel cost for the Saturday night stay, (only one extra night) of around \$85, plus one meal expense as well as a day of parking, would more than offset the \$600 difference in the airfare.

Please add this e-mail with the reimbursement form.

Thank you.
Peter

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

FORM BD-403
(Rev. 1/97)
(ISD-1/99)

IN THE DISCHARGE OF OFFICIAL DUTY

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLAIMANT. Submit one original to Accounting. Attach all necessary receipts and other supporting documents to this form. Retain one (1) copy for your records. Complete amount, company, account, and center fields. Must be filed at least monthly and not later than 30 days after month ends. Must be prepared in ink or typed.

Employee's Name (First, Middle Initial, Last) Steve Senyk		Division/Section Minnesota Senate Media Services Department	Soc. Sec. # [REDACTED]
Payee's Address (Street) 241 Lion Lane		Title: 	Headquarters (City) RALEIGH
(City, State, Zip) Shoreview MN 55126		Period Covered by this Request (from/to) 10/18/2008 - 10/22/2008	

Under penalties of perjury I certify this to be a true and accurate statement of the city of lodging, expenses and allowances incurred in the service of the State.

I have examined this reimbursement request and certify that it is just and reasonable.

Steve Senyk 10/24/08 (Claimant) (Date)
Jillie M. Tarleton 10-30-08 (Supervisor) (Date)
 NOTE: ORIGINAL SIGNATURE AND DATES ARE REQUIRED FOR PROCESSING

NOTE TO CLAIMANT: Please Complete the Information at right according to your records.	Total Expense \$879.40
	Less Advance \$0.00
	Total Due (Owe) \$879.40

LINE NO.	COMPANY	AMOUNT	ACCOUNT	CENTER	ACCRUAL CODE
0001					
0002					
0003					
0004					
0005					
0006					

Total Expense **\$879.40**

Approved as to proper travel chargeable to above accounting code verified as conforming to authorized reimbursable expenses.

A/P Accountant	Date	Travel (show each city visited)		Transportation			Subsistence			Other Expenses	
		from	to	1*	In-State	Out-of-State	2*	In-State	Out-of-State	Explanation	Amount
	10/18/2008	Shoreview, MN	Raleigh, North Carolina	Ground			B				
		Depart		Air		\$179.50	L				
		Arrive		Other			D	\$19.00			
		Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250		Private car		\$6.25	H	\$83.16			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?					Sub-total	\$102.16	\$0.00		
	10/19/2008			Ground		\$10.00	B	\$7.50			
		Depart		Air			L	\$9.75			
		Arrive		Other			D	\$19.00			
		Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250		Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H	\$83.16			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?					Sub-total	\$119.41	\$0.00		
	10/20/2008			Ground		\$10.00	B	\$7.50			
		Depart		Air			L	\$9.75			
		Arrive		Other			D	\$19.00			
		Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250		Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H	\$83.16			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?					Sub-total	\$119.41	\$0.00		
	10/21/2008			Ground		\$10.00	B	\$7.50			
		Depart		Air			L	\$9.75			
		Arrive		Other			D	\$19.00			
		Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250		Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H	\$83.16			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?					Sub-total	\$119.41	\$0.00		
				Total In-State	\$0.00	\$215.75	Total In-State	\$430.39	Total Out-of-State	\$0.00	\$0.00

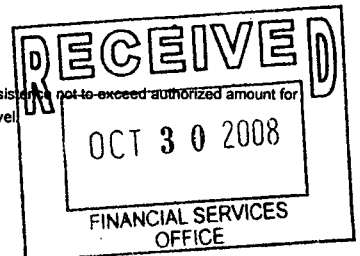
Subsistence Limitations:	In-State	Out-of-State
Breakfast	\$7.00	\$7.00
Lunch	\$9.25	\$9.25
Dinner	\$15.75	\$17.75
Housing (up to)	\$59.75	\$71.00
Totals	\$91.75	\$105.00

Travel: _____ by receipt from a commercial lodging establishment.

Ground includes rail, bus, taxi, parking fees

2* Type of Subsistence:
 B = Breakfast
 D = Dinner
 L = Lunch
 H = Housing (Room)

NOTE: Daily total for subsistence not to exceed authorized amount for in-state or out-of-state travel



Day	Travel (show each city visited)		Transportation			Subsistence			Other Expenses	
	from	to	1*	In-State	Out-of-State	2*	In-State	Out-of-State	Explanation	Amount
TOTALS BROUGHT FORWARD				\$0.00	\$215.75		\$460.39	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/18/2008			Ground		\$10.00	B	\$7.50			
Depart		Raleigh	Air		\$179.50	L				
Arrive		Shoreview, MN	Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$6.26	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$7.50	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/23/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/24/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/25/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/26/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/27/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/28/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/29/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/30/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
10/31/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
11/1/2008			Ground			B				
Depart			Air			L				
Arrive			Other			D				
Daily Private Car Mileage: miles - using a per mile rate of: \$0.250			Private car	\$0.00	\$0.00	H				
<input type="checkbox"/> Out of State?						Sub-total:	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
GRAND TOTALS				\$0.00	\$411.51		\$467.89	\$0.00		\$0.00

DATE: Thursday, October 09, 2008
TO: Mr. Steve Senyk
FROM: Peter Capriglione
RE: Appear before the House Select Committee on
Televising Sessions

This will confirm your invitation to appear before **House Select Committee on Televising Sessions** at its meeting on **10-21-2008**. The meeting is scheduled to begin at **10am** and will be held in Room **1425** of the **Legislative Building** in Raleigh, North Carolina. We anticipate that the meeting will last until **12pm**.

The General Assembly will reimburse you for travel expenses for surface transportation to your airport of departure and from that airport to your home or office upon your return; round trip coach class airfare to Raleigh, North Carolina; surface transportation from Raleigh-Durham International Airport to your hotel and turn; and one round trip between your hotel and the Legislative Office Building in downtown Raleigh. The General Assembly will reimburse you for up to **four (4)** nights of overnight lodging if required and for meals at the rate allowed for employees of the State of North Carolina while in out-of-state travel status. We will need documentation in the form of original receipts for airfare, lodging expenses, and surface transportation in the form of paid receipts. Receipts are not required for meals because the reimbursement amount will be a per diem amount of the \$7.50 for breakfast, \$9.75 for lunch and \$19.00 for dinner.

Requests for reimbursement will be sent to the following address with a copy of this agreement:

North Carolina General Assembly
Financial Services Section
300 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-5925

We appreciate your willingness to attend this meeting and look forward to your presentation to the members. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance in connection with your appearance before the committee.

Chellie M. Taylor, Chairman
by jln
10-30-08



CLARION HOTEL STATE CAPITAL (NC376)

320 HILLSBOROUGH ST
RALEIGH, NC 27603-1786 USA
Phone: (919) 832-0501
Fax: (919) 833-1631
gm.NC376@choicehotels.com

Account: NC376 - 294839

Date: 10/22/08

Page: 1 of 1

Room: 910 LSTATE

Arrival Date: 10/18/08 18:47

Departure Date:

Frequent Traveler ID:

You were checked out by:

You were checked in by: LB

SENYK, STEVE

241 LION LANE

SHOREVIEW, MN 55126 US

steve.senyk@gmail.com

Post Date	Description	Comment	Amount
			73.75
		#604 SENYK, STEVE	4.98
10/18/08	ROOM CHARGE	STATE TAX	4.43
10/18/08	STATE TAX	OCCUPANCY TAX	73.75
10/18/08	OCCUPANCY TAX	#910 SENYK, STEVE	4.98
10/19/08	ROOM CHARGE	STATE TAX	4.43
10/19/08	STATE TAX	OCCUPANCY TAX	73.75
10/19/08	OCCUPANCY TAX	#910 SENYK, STEVE	4.98
10/20/08	ROOM CHARGE	STATE TAX	4.43
10/20/08	STATE TAX	OCCUPANCY TAX	73.75
10/20/08	OCCUPANCY TAX	#910 SENYK, STEVE	4.98
10/21/08	ROOM CHARGE	STATE TAX	4.43
10/21/08	STATE TAX	OCCUPANCY TAX	-332.64
10/21/08	OCCUPANCY TAX	CHECKOUT	
10/22/08	DISCOVER	Acct: *****7623	
Balance Due:			0.00

If payment by credit card, I agree to pay the above total charge amount according to the card issuer agreement.

x _____



CLARION HOTEL STATE CAPITAL (NC376)

320 HILLSBOROUGH ST
RALEIGH, NC 27603-1786 USA
Phone: (919) 832-0501
Fax: (919) 833-1631

Room: 910

Arrival Date: 10/18/08

Departure Date:

Account: NC376 - 294839

Frequent Traveler ID:

Approval Number:

Card Type: DS

Date: 10/22/2008

Card Number: *****7623

Total: 332.64

If payment by credit card, I agree to pay the above total charge amount according to the card issuer agreement.

x _____

STEVE SENYK

241 LION LANE

SHOREVIEW, MN 55126 US

steve.senyk@gmail.com

Thank you for your business! Book your next reservation on choicehotels.com for the best internet rates guaranteed.



steve senyk <steve.senyk@gmail.com>

Park 'N Fly Network Reservation Notification, Confirmation# 5780109

1 message

confirmation@parknflynetwork.com <confirmation@parknflynetwork.com>

Fri, Oct 17, 2008 at 4:57 PM

To: steve.senyk@gmail.com

Park 'N Fly Network

Booking Notification

Thank you for using the Park 'N Fly Network on-line booking system. You must bring a printed copy of this email or your printed on-line Payment Voucher and present it to the cashier when exiting the facility as proof of payment.

Please retain a copy of this e-mail message for your records.

+++++

Your name: STEVE SENYK
Your confirmation number is: 5780109
Your PIN number is required to retrieve a reservation on line. It is: 0873139

Your reservation is for: Minneapolis - MSP PARK 'N FLY

Address :3750 American Blvd. East
Minneapolis, MN 55425, US
Phone : 952-883-3606

Departure Date: SATURDAY 10/18/2008 Departure Time:11:30
Return Date: WEDNESDAY 10/22/2008 Return Time: 11:30

PNF Code : 9004
Length of parking: 4 days 0.00 hours
Total Paid: 40.00 USD
Parking Preference:Self Park - Uncovered

*PARKING
AT AIRPORT - MSP*

Rate Summary

Plan: Daily	Currency: USD	
Base Rate (4 days @ 10.00)	40.00	
Extra Day Rate (0 days @ 10.00)	0.00	
Hourly Rate (0 hours @ 2.50)	0.00	
SUB-TOTAL	40.00	
Transaction Fee \$3.00 Waived	0.00	
Taxes Included in Rate	0.00	

Total Paid 40.00

Driving Directions :

From I-494, exit 34th Avenue SOUTH. Then turn east on American Blvd. to the Park 'N Fly airport parking entrance located between the Embassy Suites and the Airport Hilton.

A copy of your reservation has been sent to your e-mail address. You will need to print and present your payment voucher or e-mail confirmation to the cashier when exiting the facility as proof of payment. If your trip is extended beyond the number of parking days purchased you will be charged the posted parking



Passenger Receipt

Depart
Mpls/St. Paul, MN
Raleigh/Durham, NC

Arrive
Raleigh, Durham, NC
Mpls/St Paul, MN

Date
18OCT08
22OCT08

Cabin
Coach
Coach

Fare Code
K7Z1N
K7Z1N

E-Ticket #: 0122171266797
Issue Date: 10OCT08
Name/Place of Issue: NWA.COM US E-TICKET T
AR MPLS
/ST PAUL MN

Endorsements/Restrictions:
NON-REF JNDABLE/PENALTY FOR CHANGES

*Transportation subject to terms of carriage
printed inside ticket jacket*

SENYK/STEVE.G

Total Fare This Ticket: USD 359.00

FARE 314.41
US TAX 23.59
DOM SEGMENT FEE 7.0C
OTHER TAX 14.0C
TOTAL USD 359.0C

Form of Payment: Discover® Network
Card #: XXXXXXXXXXXXX7623
E-Ticket #: 0122171266797
Confirmation #: 2WC288





North Carolina General Assembly

House of Representatives
State Legislative Building
Raleigh 27601-1096

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS
REPRESENTATIVE CULLIE M. TARLETON, CHAIRMAN

October 28, 2008

Mr. Steve Senyk
Director of Media Services
Secretary of the Senate, Media Services
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room B-44
St. Paul, MN 55155-1601

Dear Mr. Senyk:

Thank you for your visit to the North Carolina General Assembly, House of Representatives, to speak with the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions.

The Committee is in the process of gathering information on televising and web casting House sessions. After receiving an excellent recommendation from Mr. Peter Capriglion, ISD Applications Manager, the Committee was interested in hearing your presentation.

You did a great job on giving the Committee a realistic presentation on televising and web casting as well as you very thoroughly answered questions from the Committee members. We certainly appreciated your taking time from your busy schedule to assist the Committee members in their work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cullie M. Tarleton".

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chair

CMT/ln



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: BRENDA CARTER
FROM: LINDA NEAL
SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS
DATE: OCTOBER 9, 2008
CC: HEATHER FENNELL AND PETER CAPRIGLIONE

Per the email I sent you this morning, please note for our next committee meeting on October 21, 2008, we have a new room location 1425 in the LB. (Room number 1228 is already occupied.)

If possible, for our next meeting, could you please send me a list of all invited guest, along with their Company name and mailing address? I need this information for our records (Minutes), plus I want to make sure I have enough Expense Forms for anyone requiring reimbursement for their expenses.

Whenever you get the Agenda ready or any other handouts, please let me know. I will be glad to make copies or anything else I can help you with.

I am in the process of typing Minutes for our first meeting on October 1, 2008. I will email to you ASAP for your approval.

As always, thank you for your help. *I cannot understand how you ever manage to do everything that's required of you. I admire your patience.*

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 11:25 AM
To: 'Hoffman, Ivy'
Subject: FW: House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Attachments: Memo to B. Carter 10-9-08.doc

Hi Ivy:

I assume you think I have forgotten you. Representative Tarleton keeps me very busy, plus being the Committee Assistant for subject. But, everyone else is busy, especially our Research and ISD Departments.

After reading my email to Brenda, if you have any information that will save Brenda time, I would appreciate your sending me a copy. I haven't forgotten you want a copy of the Minutes. For interim study committees, NCGA wants included very thorough and detailed information.

I hope you have a great day and I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Thank you for your help.

Linda

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 11:14 AM
To: Brenda Carter (Research)
Cc: Heather Fennell (Research); Peter Capriglione (ISD, Applications Manager)
Subject: House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Per attached Memo.



Memo to B. Carter
10-9-08.doc ...

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Rep. Thom Tillis
Date: Friday, September 26, 2008 4:20 AM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton); Carol Wakely (Rep. Tillis); Rep. Ric Killian
Subject: RE: Committe Meeting Notice

Representative Tarleton,

I am out of the country and I will not return to Charlotte until Wednesday 10/1. I am afraid I will miss our first meeting.

I will contact you on my return to get an update and to offer my help in between committee meetings.

Regards and Greetings from Italy,

Thom T.

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2008 1:56 PM
To: @HouseInterimCommitteeNotice; Brenda Carter (Research); Brenda Lee (Rep. Dickson); Carol Wakely (Rep. Tillis); Cassie Ester (Rep. Coleman); Denise Weeks (House Principal Clerk); Heather Fennell (Research); HSCTHS@LS.NCGA.STATE.NC.US; Ivy Hoffman (Ivy.Hoffman@ncmail.net); Jackie Milazzo (Rep. Killian); Joanna Mills (Rep. Setzer); Peter Capriglione (ISD, Applications Manager); Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton; Rep. Grier Martin; Rep. Linda Coleman; Rep. Margaret H. Dickson; Rep. Mitchell Setzer; Rep. Ric Killian; Rep. Thom Tillis; Sylvia Hammons (Rep. Martin)
Subject: Committe Meeting Notice

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Carol Wakely (Rep. Tillis)
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2008 8:05 AM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: CORRECTED MEETING NOTICE

Dear Linda: Thanks for the notice on the date change for this meeting. Rep. Tillis has been out of the country, and I believe will just be flying back on that day, so he will be unable to attend.

If anything changes, I will let you know ... Thank you.

Carol Wakely
Legislative Assistant
Office of Thom Tillis, District 98
1002 Legislative Building
Raleigh, NC 27619 733 5828

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 2:41 PM
To: @HouseInterimCommitteeNotice; Brenda Carter (Research); Brenda Lee (Rep. Dickson); Carol Wakely (Rep. Tillis); Cassie Lester (Rep. Coleman); Denise Weeks (House Principal Clerk); Heather Fennell (Research); HSCTHS@LS.NCGA.STATE.NC.US; Ivy Hoffman (Ivy.Hoffman@ncmail.net); Jackie Milazzo (Rep. Killian); Joanna Mills (Rep. Setzer); Peter Capriglione (ISD, Applications Manager); Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton; Rep. Grier Martin; Rep. Linda Coleman; Rep. Margaret H. Dickson; Rep. Mitchell Setzer; Rep. Ric Killian; Rep. Thom Tillis; Sylvia Hammons (Rep. Martin)
Subject: CORRECTED MEETING NOTICE

PLEASE CORRECT YOUR CALENDARS ACCORDING TO INFORMATION LISTED BELOW. THANK YOU.

September 19, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the **House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions**
FROM: Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman
SUBJECT: CORRECTED MEETING NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions:

DAY: Wednesday **TIME:** 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
DATE: October 1, 2008
LOCATION: Room 1228, Legislative Building

Committee members, please advise Linda Neal, Committee Assistant, at (919) 733-7727, or e-mail

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 7:40 AM
To: 'Hoffman, Ivy'
Subject: RE: Contact from Brenda Carter

Great! I will e-mail you a corrected Committee Meeting Notice today. Thanks for your cooperation. This will really help Rep. Tarleton.
Linda

-----Original Message-----

From: Hoffman, Ivy [mailto:ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 7:35 AM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: Contact from Brenda Carter

Not a problem with our schedules. I had forwarded your formal announcement to my board and various other interested parties. I figured I would wait to announce the date change until I received a formal announcement and just wanted to make sure I understood the protocol.

Thanks - ivy

Ivy Hoffman
Executive Director
Agency for Public Telecommunications
Department of Administration
1316 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1316
ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov
919/733-6341 (phone)
919/715-3569 (fax)

www.ncapt.tv

"Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official."

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton) [mailto:Tarletonla@ncleg.net]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 7:33 AM
To: Hoffman, Ivy
Subject: RE: Contact from Brenda Carter

Ivy:
Absolutely. Rep. Tarleton has requested a change from October 2nd until October 1st same location and same time. Is that change going to conflict with your or your staff's schedule?
Linda

-----Original Message-----

From: Hoffman, Ivy [mailto:ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 7:25 AM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: Contact from Brenda Carter

Linda -- Shall I expect a revised meeting announcement about the change of the meeting date?

Ivy Hoffman
Executive Director
Agency for Public Telecommunications
Department of Administration
1316 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1316
ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov
919/733-6341 (phone)
919/715-3569 (fax)

www.ncapt.tv

"Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official."

-----Original Message-----

From: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton [mailto:Culliet@ncleg.net]
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2008 4:58 PM
To: Hoffman, Ivy
Subject: RE: Contact from Brenda Carter

It now appears the meeting will be on Wed. 10-1, same time, same room.
Cullie

From: Hoffman, Ivy [mailto:ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov]
Sent: Thu 9/18/2008 9:50 AM
To: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton
Subject: Contact from Brenda Carter

Representative Tarleton - Brenda Carter called me yesterday regarding the first meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions. I plan to meet with her on Monday late morning, at her request.

I want to make sure that I am collecting for the House Select Committee the information you expect. At this stage, I plan to update Brenda about what APT has done with its OPEN/net programs over the years and our hopes for aggregating programming about state government into a channel (internet and broadcast/cablecast) that mirrors C-SPAN. I will also give her our information about what other states are doing. Until we have a better idea of how things may work with any house coverage, I don't have hard costs for equipment, personnel or transmission - but I may be able to provide some general cost information if that is required at this stage. If it would help to talk by phone some time prior to my meeting with Brenda, let me know and I'll give you a call.

I mentioned to Brenda that UNC-TV covers the legislature with its NC Now and Legislative Week in Review programs. I cannot speak directly to what UNC-TV is doing, but I can provide Brenda with Tom Howe's contact information.

Please let me know if this meets your expectations, as I wish to ensure that APT is providing useful information to the House Select Committee.

Thanks - ivy

Ivy Hoffman
Executive Director
Agency for Public Telecommunications
Department of Administration
1316 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1316
ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov <mailto:ivy.hoffman@doa.nc.gov>

919/733-6341 (phone)
919/715-3569 (fax)

www.ncapt.tv <<http://www.ncapt.tv/>>

"Email correspondence to and from this address may be subject to the North Carolina Public
Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties by an authorized state official."

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Beverly Adams (Legislative Services Office)
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 10:53 AM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: Reserving Committee Meeting Room

confirmed

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 9:38 AM
To: Beverly Adams (Legislative Services Office)
Subject: Reserving Committee Meeting Room

Please reserve room number 1228 for Wednesday, October 1, 2008 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM and advise confirmation for the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions.

Thank you,
Linda

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Gloria McLaughlin (Financial Services)
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2008 2:49 PM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Use Acct. # 1120

Thanks

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2008 2:44 PM
To: Gloria McLaughlin (Financial Services)
Subject: The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Hi Gloria:

Please advise Postal Account Number for subject committee at your most earliest convenience, as committee meeting notices are due to be mailed tomorrow 10/18/08.

Thanks,

Linda

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Kelly Stallings (ISD)
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2008 12:30 PM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: List Server

Please add HSCTHS@LS.NCGA.STATE.NC.US to your contacts. Also, please use @HouseInterimCommitteeNotice to make sure that it goes to the right people in the NCGA as well as the listserv for people who sign up to receive every committee notice.

Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2008 3:49 PM
To: Kelly Stallings (ISD)
Subject: List Server

Hi Kelly:

I am the Committee Assistant for The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions. Please advise List Server for this committee at your most earliest convenience.

Thank you,

Linda

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Date: Friday, September 19, 2008 9:21 AM
To: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton
Subject: RE: The Raleigh Report

Yes sir. She called late yesterday afternoon. She wanted me to get in touch with Ivy Hoffman to see if this change would meet with her schedule. I talked with Ivy this AM. Wed, Oct 1st will be ok with her. I tried calling Beverly Adams this AM to confirm the room. I don't think she is working today. I am going to send her an email to confirm the date of Oct 1, and double check with her on Monday. So, it looks like everything worked out for Wed, Oct 1st as you requested. I am going to send out corrected e-mail notices to the members today.

From: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton
Date: Friday, September 19, 2008 9:15 AM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: The Raleigh Report

No problem. Have you spoken with Brenda yet?

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Date: Fri 9/19/2008 7:38 AM
To: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton
Subject: The Raleigh Report

Cullie:
I am going to prepare the Raleigh Report today; however, I am going to send the final report to you and save in on your files. By doing this, all I will have to do Monday AM is the email merge, which will save a great deal of time in getting the report sent to your constituents as quickly as possible on Monday morning.

I hope this is ok with you.

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2008 8:10 AM
To: Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton
Cc: Brenda Carter (Research); Heather Fennell (Research); Peter Capriglione (ISD, Applications Manager)
Subject: 1st Meeting Location The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Cullie:

I contacted Beverly Adams yesterday as per your instructions. I have reserved room number 1228 for Thursday 10/2/08 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM for The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions first meeting.

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Bill Holmes (Speaker Hackney's Office)
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2008 4:13 PM
To: 'joeh@bellsouth.net'; Rep. Cullie M. Tarleton
Cc: @Speaker Hackney's Staff; Don Willis (House Majority Leader's Office); Denise Weeks (House Principal Clerk)
Subject: AP story

NC House panel getting close to television

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. - A House committee looking at how the chamber could air video of its daily sessions is grappling with who would oversee the broadcasts.

The panel of House members met Monday to discuss details of a plan it expects to vote on later this month and present to Democratic Speaker Joe Hackney.

The committee supports broadcasting House floor sessions and some committee meetings on the Internet before expanding to regular television.

The panel's recommendation puts the speaker in charge of setting broadcast policies. The minority leader also would have a role. GOP Rep. Ric Killian of Mecklenburg County said he would prefer the policy be set by a committee equally divided of Democrats and Republicans.

Panel members agreed the public must believe the broadcasts are fair and nonpartisan.

Bill Holmes
Director of Communications
Office of Speaker Joe Hackney
2304-B Legislative Building
919-733-5462 (o)
919-621-5060 (c)

Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)

From: Dianne Russell (House Legislative Assistants Director)
Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2008 1:34 PM
To: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Subject: RE: New Committee

Attachments: Picture (Metafile)

Linda,

I must have thought I saw this in email, but I actually saw it on Under the Dome.

Hackney ponders House TV

Submitted by ryanteaguebeckwith on September 9, 2008 - 8:17am.

Tags: [Cullie Tarleton](#) | [Joe Hackney](#) | [National Association of Broadcasters](#) | [Under the Dome](#)

Speaker [Joe Hackney](#) has set up a committee to study broadcasting the House.

"Televising our sessions will give the people of North Carolina better insight into the work we do here and open up the process to more people in this state," Hackney said in a news release. "We want our citizens to see and understand how their government and their elected representatives work for them."

The committee will study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of live broadcasts of the House when it is in session.

Rep. [Cullie Tarleton](#) of Blowing Rock will chair the committee. He is a former senior vice president and general manager for WBTV, WBT Radio and WCCB TV and a former member of the board of directors for the [National Association of Broadcasters](#).

The final report will be due before the 2009 session convenes. (N&O)

http://projects.newsobserver.com/under_the_dome/hackney_ponders_house_tv \l "comment [Comments \(1\)](#)

From: Linda Neal (Rep. Tarleton)
Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2008 1:28 PM
To: Dianne Russell (House Legislative Assistants Director)
Subject: New Committee

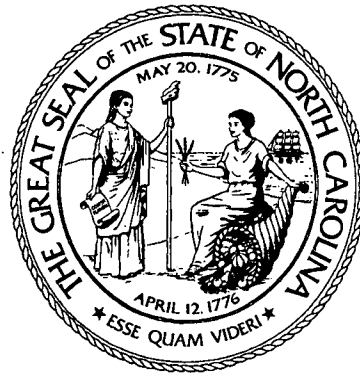
Dianne:

I have looked thru both my emails as well as Rep. Tarleton's. I don't see an email from Alan Rogers. Could you forward me a copy of the email you received with reference to the committee which Rep. Tarleton is going to chair? Thanks for your help.

Linda

Linda Neal, Legislative Assistant for
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
16 W. Jones St., # 2221
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096
Telephone (919) 733-7727

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON
TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS**



**REPORT TO THE
NORTH CAROLINA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

December 2008

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HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS



December 18, 2008

TO THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Attached for your consideration is the report of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Cullie Tarleton

Chair

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

PREFACE

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions was authorized by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on September 9, 2008. The Committee was directed to study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The Committee was also directed to review and assess current television access to State Government and how it compares to other states and the federal government, and any other related matters. The letter of authorization, which includes the full membership of the Committee, is included in Appendix A of this report.

Representative Cullie Tarleton chaired the Committee. A committee notebook containing the committee minutes and all information presented to the committee will be filed in the Legislative Library by the end of the 2007-2008 biennium.

COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions met five times. At each meeting the Committee provided interested parties an opportunity to be heard on the issues and received public comment.

October 1, 2008 Meeting

The first meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions was held on October 1, 2008. The meeting began with introductions and opening remarks by Committee Chair Representative Cullie Tarleton, followed by a review of the charge of the Committee and introductory comments by the members of the Committee. Members commented on the importance of open government and expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to explore the possibilities of televising House Sessions.

Heather Fennell, Committee Co-Counsel, presented information on what other state legislatures are doing with regard to broadcasting or web casting floor sessions and committee meetings. Thirty-two state legislatures offer video web casts of the legislature, and twenty-eight states offer over-the-air broadcasts of the legislature.

Peter Capriglione, the Committee's Legislative Analyst for Information Technology, presented information on the infrastructure of the Legislative Building and the estimated cost of televising House Sessions. Mr. Capriglione noted that web casting sessions could be less expensive than televising sessions due to the difference in camera quality that is required for each application. Initial cost estimates for the purchase and installation of equipment required to provide video coverage of House floor sessions and select House committee meetings would be \$1.3 million dollars, with approximately half of that amount being used for equipment. There would be an additional recurring cost of approximately \$600,000 a year to provide staff and additional equipment.

Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director of the Agency for Public Television, addressed comments to the Committee. She was accompanied by **Randy Fraser, Chair**

of the Board of the Agency for Public Television. Mr. Fraser gave a brief overview of the history and mission of the Agency.

After the presentations, the chair opened the floor for committee discussion and questions.

October 21, 2008 Meeting

The second meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions was held on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

The Committee heard from **Steve Senyk, Director of Media Services with the Minnesota Senate.** Minnesota reportedly has one of the best working models on televising State government in the country. Mr. Senyk's department produces broadcasts of Senate floor and committee proceedings, along with weekly PBS-distributed public affairs shows, issue segments, historical features, civic education videos, and news pool feeds. Mr. Senyk suggested that the Committee first determine the goal of its broadcast program, and how to achieve that goal within the available budget. He noted that producing video coverage of the legislature will involve a lot of day-to-day decision making. The Minnesota Senate does not cover all of its proceedings gavel to gavel, as they do not run a 24/7 network. It therefore leaves production to one trusted executive to make decisions as to what will be televised on a daily basis. To protect the interests of the legislature as an institution, Senyk suggested that this producer should be someone who is as knowledgeable about the legislature as he or she is about television production.

The Minnesota Senate delivers programming through several partnerships, involving PBS, Minnesota Public Television, and the Greater Minnesota Cable Association. The Minnesota Senate began televising in 1985 with a budget of \$500,000 showing a capital investment of \$3 million over 17 years, which equals approximately \$265,000 annually. Today their operating cost is \$1.5 million, which includes distribution. The Minnesota Senate pays for broadcast services, since running legislative programs can impact a broadcaster's ability to increase revenue from other programming sources. Senyk indicated that in one recent year, his office negotiated \$600,000 for

broadcasting fees. In 2008 the Senate had coverage in 8,500 to 12,000 homes; the previous year was estimated at 4,000 to 6,000, peaking at 8,000. Senyk noted that during primetime in the late 90s, the Senate televised a controversial issue and ratings for that program were larger than some of the major news networks (CNN, MSNBC, and Fox), which indicates that interest in government programming is often topic driven. The Minnesota Senate provides pool feeds which enable the dissemination of information to millions of people immediately. Live web casts are also made available to the public, and records show 4,000 to 6,000 hits during live web casts as compared to 12,000 hits for archived programs.

Senyk responded to questions from the Committee concerning issues of partisanship, programming, budget, and equipment. Senyk indicated that his startup costs included building a studio for interviewing and also the purchase of portable cameras and switchers. The Senate purchased 16 robotic cameras and other equipment at a cost of approximately \$1 million. Minnesota Senate Media Services has 6 permanent key employees in television production, plus 3 part time employees during the legislative sessions. According to Senyk, hiring full time key people with the knowledge to be able to operate quickly when the legislature is in session is vital. In order to build internal respect for the program, Senyk advised having a permanent producer and director with enough in depth knowledge of the legislature to be able to produce appropriate television coverage.

The Committee then heard from **Mr. Tom Howe, Director and General Manager of UNC-TV**. Mr. Howe indicated that approximately one half of UNC-TV's budget is provided by the General Assembly. UNC-TV has provided limited coverage of the General Assembly for several decades, integrating legislative coverage with other public affairs programming. When the General Assembly is in session, UNC-TV produces a weekly one hour program that features coverage of the legislature. This program requires a significant commitment from camera operators, writers, associate producers, producers, and reporters. Howe noted that UNC-TV is about 50% state funded; the cost of coverage of public affairs is about 28% state funded. The cost of PBS is continuously increasing; the General Assembly pays PBS almost \$4 million per year.

Mr. Howe indicates that providing greater access to the public is good public policy, and suggested that the legislature work with the Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT) to provide video coverage of the legislature. He noted that APT is designated by statute to be the video arm of government, and believes that APT could appropriately have a role in producing coverage of legislative sessions or committee meetings. Although Howe indicated he could not take a public position supporting appropriations for televising House sessions, except to say that he thinks it is good public policy and that he is really glad this committee is investing time in the issue.

Mr. Howe said that in terms of coverage from the General Assembly, he thinks the most appropriate outlet would be the web and cable access channels. Howe also indicated that if the House were to provide television coverage and provide a pool feed, it could be a tremendous asset for UNC-TV in the production of their weekly shows. For example, if APT was filming and was doing a feed from the House floor, UNC-TV would not have to be on the floor with their cameras. If APT was providing a feed from a committee meeting, UNC-TV could get that feed. Howe indicated that a pool feed from the House could be available to a news channel in Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte, or anywhere in the State.

Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director of the NC Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT), made a presentation to the Committee concerning the services of her agency and how they might play a role in the production of televised coverage of the House of Representatives. Ms. Hoffman provided information indicating that within 9 to 12 months her agency could acquire equipment and supplies to begin televising proceedings of the House. When asked what that would cost and what service would be provided for that investment, Ms. Hoffman replied that about \$700,000 would be required for an equipment package. APT would put cameras in the chambers, Appropriations and Finance Committee Rooms, and in 3 additional committee rooms on the 1st floor of the legislative building, along with a roll around cart. APT would need the equipment to take those signals across the street to their facility to package them and put on the graphics to stream or otherwise distribute the video. Ms. Hoffman indicated she would need a staff of 19 people at an annual cost of \$1 million to provide the

production, engineering, and other assistance necessary for the level of coverage proposed. Some programming could go out live, others could be web streamed and possibly held for later airing. Hoffman noted that the method of distribution is key. According to Ms. Hoffman's estimates, about 65% of North Carolina households receive cable television. APT probably reaches about 85% of that, which is 4 to 5 million. Chairman Tarleton noted that APT is a resource that we are lucky to have in North Carolina, and recognized Randy Fraser, who is the Chairman of the Board for APT.

The Committee then heard from **Mr. Mike Williams, Cable Administrator with Raleigh Television Network (RTN)**, which provides coverage of local government meetings. Mr. Williams works for the City of Raleigh and reports to the city's Public Affairs Director. RTN is a 4-channel local public education government programming operation. The channels are made available to RTN through a franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable, and their programming is available to most of the residents of Wake County. RTN's goal is to provide information about what's happening within the city, and coverage includes city council and commission meetings, and capital projects including downtown development. Williams indicated that in the early days of RTN's production, he was told the programming could be rated as being somewhere between "not interesting" and "a little boring".

Mr. Williams predicted that if the House decides to televise its sessions, it will take between 6 to 18 months to go live, depending on the complexity. This is considered a reasonable time frame. Williams noted that when RTN launched, it had obsolete equipment. They upgraded the equipment about 4 years ago at a cost of a little over \$1 million to provide acceptable quality for broadcasts. RTN now has remote controlled cameras in the city council chambers, and has upgraded its studio on Martin Street. Committee members were invited to visit RTN operations. Williams reported that RTN has gone all digital, both computer and software driven. They have a studio with 3 cameras installed, with the capability of increasing that amount. The network uses 12 portable cameras. The staff consists of 9 people producing programming and providing training for community users.

Williams advised that when televising proceedings from the legislative building, the lighting will have to be designed for the rooms and the control room may require upgrading the air conditioning system. Williams has found that interest in having government proceedings televised is much higher than originally thought. Members of the city council have said they have received a lot of positive feedback from constituents regarding televised coverage, and indicate that more viewers in the community ask important questions and are more aware of community functions. He noted that viewers do not like watching poor quality programming, with poor sound. Therefore, RTN has found it necessary to upgrade or replace equipment on a regular basis. In response to a question about how the network maintains a non partisan nature, Williams responded that the city council understands that looking at something from a partisan viewpoint is not beneficial for the broadcast program. They do get requests occasionally for partisan programming, but the city manager and the network director have veto power. Partisanship has therefore not been a major issue.

Chairman Tarleton recognized Mr. John Shaw from the audience, who wished to make a comment. Mr. Shaw said he was a private citizen from Cary, NC who likes to keep up with what is happening in government, and express his opinions to elected officials about different issues, especially the environment. He makes an effort to attend legislative committee meetings in person, but he is unable to attend as often as he would like. He listens to floor sessions at home through the Internet, but indicated that televising sessions would be much better. What goes on in the legislature overlaps as the House and Senate are often in session at the same time, and generally more than one committee meeting is occurring at any given time. If possible, Mr. Shaw would like for the legislature to have archiving—and to have video coverage.

Chairman Tarleton then recognized **Ms. Catharine Rice, Vice President of Citoba**, an association of local government cable regulators and the public education and government programmers. Ms. Rice noted that a lot more interest is being generated in public education and government (PEG) channels, and local communities are putting together scarce resources to build these channels up. Citoba has counted about 345

channels in communities across the state; some of those channels are being sent to more than one community.

The Committee was given information concerning an Elon University poll that was very positive about televising House sessions, indicating that there is a demand as well as significant interest.

November 12, 2008 Meeting

Committee staff presented information concerning a number of models for governance and distribution of video coverage of legislative proceedings. In some states, filming, video taping, or audio taping during the legislative session is done under conditions designated by the presiding officer of the legislative body, and taping or filming of sessions of committees is permissible with the prior consent of the Chairperson of the committee involved. In some states, policy directives regarding filming are developed and recommended by a designated committee and adopted by a majority vote of the elected members of the legislative body.

Committee Staff also presented three options for live video coverage of house floor sessions and selected committee meetings. The three options discussed were:

- Option 1 - Web streaming only – no television broadcasting in future;
- Option 2 - Web streaming to start - television broadcast later, and;
- Option 3 - television broadcast to start – Web streaming, a complement medium with this decision.

The committee discussion focused on option two.

Cost Estimates for the project range from \$250,000 to \$2,000,000. Many factors contribute to the overall cost for a project of this size. Three factors that are prominent in any project are vendor selection, type and quality of the equipment purchased and unforeseen expenses during the requirements phase and the installation phase.

The initial startup costs are estimated at \$1,315,000. The initial hardware and software costs are estimated at \$815,000; recurring costs of \$500,000 include staff, internet connections, and hardware and software maintenance as well the anticipated cost for closed captioning. The additional costs of cable/broadcasting distribution is projected to be in the range of \$600,000, based on Minnesota's cost for a five day a week 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. broadcast window, to as much as \$1,000,000. The one million dollar figure represents the value of a cable channel in the industry.

The startup and recurring costs for Option 2 are estimated to be less than starting with full live cablecasting and webcasting. This lower initial cost is due in part to the

difference in equipment and staffing requirements. However, the cameras that are included in the cost estimates have specifications to allow for a high quality video image for web casting and a video image that could be sent to a media feed in the legislative building. Experts in the field have identified the need for a quality image and for equipment to produce the image as one of the most critical aspects of a live video broadcast. In addition, the minimum projected life span of the video equipment is estimated at ten years. The technology of the equipment researched was to insure that it could be upgraded so it would evolve as the technology evolved. Moreover, the estimated costs are a guideline to the project. The project team should consult and learn from states that are in the business today of live broadcast coverage so that this State would be able to mitigate any of the problems other states experienced during their projects. Moreover, equipment demonstrations must be done to insure the products purchased will meet the needs of the live broadcast coverage. This upfront work will help to lay a foundation for the project to be successfully implemented in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

The Committee also heard from **Brad Phillips, President of the NC Cable Telecommunications Association and Vice President of Government Public Affairs for Time Warner Cable.**

December 1, 2008 Meeting

At its fourth meeting the Committee conducted a review of all the information previously received by the Committee, and engaged in an open discussion of proposed findings and recommendations for the Committee's report.

December 18, 2008

The Committee met and adopted its final report containing its findings and recommendations to the North Carolina House of Representatives.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Findings

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions makes the following findings:

1. Forty-three state legislatures have webcasts of some sort – either video or audio, or both; thirty-two of these states webcast video coverage of the legislature.
2. Twenty-eight state legislatures have some form of over-the-air broadcasting of television coverage of the legislature.
3. North Carolina currently webcasts audio coverage of House and Senate floor sessions, and of meetings in the Finance and Appropriations Committee Rooms.
4. State government in North Carolina should be as open and as transparent as possible. Citizens should be able to see and understand how their government and their elected representatives work for them.
5. A video webcast and/or cablecast of the North Carolina House of Representatives would serve the public's interest by giving people throughout the state greater access and understanding of their State government and enabling them to watch their representatives at work
6. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would be a step forward towards increasing openness and accountability of State government.
7. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would contribute to a better-informed electorate and lead to greater public awareness of issues vital to the State.

Recommendations

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions heard significant testimony and had extensive discussion on the benefits of televising House sessions. To provide the citizens across the State of North Carolina greater access to the proceedings of the House, the Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, gavel-to-gavel video coverage of floor debate whenever the House is in session.

2. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, video coverage of selected committee meetings – including the Finance and Appropriations Committees.
3. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives begin by providing video coverage of its sessions using video streaming technology, so that citizens can tune in using a personal computer.
4. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives work with the cable industry to expand video coverage by providing for the statewide distribution of cablecasts of legislative sessions and committee meetings.
5. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives provide for the purchase of the required equipment for the production of broadcast-quality video coverage of the House and its committees.
6. The Committee recommends that all video programming be produced and created by the North Carolina House of Representatives and its employees.
7. The Committee recommends that the Information Systems Division of the North Carolina General Assembly oversee the acquisition, installation and maintenance of equipment for video broadcasts of the House of Representatives and for the continued development and operation of video broadcasts, including the letting of contracts and the hiring of necessary personnel.
8. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives utilize the Agency for Public Telecommunications for distribution of cablecast programming coverage of the North Carolina House of Representatives.
9. The Committee recommends that the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee, in consultation with the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader establish policies governing the webcast/cablecast program of the House of Representatives, including the content, selection, and editorial policies governing the program.
10. The Committee recommends that video coverage of the House of Representatives provide a complete unedited transmission of what is said on the floor of the House or in its committees, and be free from commentary. The House of Representatives should provide video programming that is fair, accurate, balanced and without undue regard to partisanship or ideology.
11. The Committee recommends that tapes or digital video recordings of webcasts and cablecasts not be deemed an official record of proceedings of the House of Representatives.

12. The Committee recommends that the Speaker of the House of Representatives reestablish the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions for the 2009-1010 biennium, and that the Committee continue to review aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings of the House of Representatives.

APPENDIX A



**Office of Speaker Joe Hackney
North Carolina House of Representatives
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096**

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS

**TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Section 1. The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions (hereinafter "Committee") is established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

Section 2. The Committee consists of the 8 members listed below, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives may dissolve the Committee at any time.

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair
Representative Linda Coleman
Representative Margaret Dickson
Representative Ric Killian
Representative Grier Martin
Representative Mitch Setzer
Representative Thom Tillis
Denise Weeks, Advisory Member

Section 3. The Committee shall study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The Committee shall review and assess current television access to State Government and how it compares to other states and the federal government. The committee shall study any other related matter.

Section 4. The Committee shall meet upon the call of its Chairs. A quorum of the Committee shall be a majority of its members.

Statutes.
Section 6. Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as provided in G.S. 120-3.1.

Section 7. The expenses of the Committee including per diem, subsistence, travel allowances for Committee members, and contracts for professional or consultant services shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-32.02(c) and G.S. 120-35 from funds available to the House of Representatives for its operations. Individual expenses of \$5,000 or less, including per diem, travel, and subsistence expenses of members of the Committee, and clerical expenses shall be paid upon the authorization of the Chair of the Committee. Individual expenses in excess of \$5,000 shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 8. The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical support staff to the Committee.

Section 9. The Committee may meet at various locations around the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

Section 10. The Committee shall submit a final report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the House of Representatives on or before December 31, 2008, by filing the final report with the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the House Principal Clerk, and the Legislative Library. The Committee terminates on December 31, 2008, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

Effective this 9th day of September 2008.



Joe Hackney
Speaker

Section 5. The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General

9/9/2008 3:39 PM

Committee Staff

Legislative Analysts

Brenda Carter
Heather Fennell
Research Division
(919) 733-2578

Peter Capriglione
Information Services Division
(919) 733-6660

Clerk

Linda Neal
(919) 733-7727

MINUTES
House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions
December 18, 2008
Room 1027, Legislative Building
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman, called to order the fifth and final meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions at 10:10 A.M. on Thursday, December 18, 2008. Representatives Margaret Highsmith Dickson and Ric Killian were present. Advisory Member Denise Weeks was in attendance, also.

The Chair stated that the following Representatives would not be at the committee meeting today: Grier Martin, Mitchell Setzer, and Thom Tillis. He said he had not heard from Representatives Margaret Highsmith Dickson and Linda Coleman and requested one of the Sergeant-At Arms to telephone their office. He stated further that even though he had planned on taking a vote today from the committee members, it is not critical to the committee's work. The primary purpose of the meeting today is to review the final draft, which will be forwarded on to the Speaker's Office.

The Chair recognized staff members Brenda Carter and Heather Fennell thanking them for their endless time researching information for the committee. Also, he acknowledged Peter Capriglione, who was in attendance at another committee meeting.

The Chair recognized and thanked Sergeant-At Arms Tom Wilder, Frank Prevo, Dave Shearon, and Carlton Adams for their efforts.

The Visitor Registration Listing is attached as Exhibit A.

Mr. Frank Prevo with the Sergeant-At Arms staff told the Chair that Representative Dickson was on her way to the meeting and he could not locate Representative Coleman.

The Chair thanked everyone in the audience for their attendance today and said their comments would be welcome. Heather has passed out Draft Copy of the Final Report, as per attachment listed as Exhibit B. I have eliminated one of the recommendations from the original report. Members of the committee have received the final report. Since our last meeting, I have had an opportunity to have a conversation with the Speaker. He remains very interested in the committee's final report. Of course,

all of you know what the General Assembly's financial situation is looking like as we go into the new fiscal year. This committee is something that is high on the Speaker's agenda. He would like the committee to find a way to get up live and stream on the Internet. The General Assembly will deal with the broadcast portion of it as we move down the pipe. In that regard, I am continuing to have conversations with representatives from WUNC-TV Carl Davis and Tom Howe. The Chair continued by saying things is occurring in the industry as we look at the digital transition. The equipment is becoming more hesitated with opportunities to present them in the future. This would allow getting a broadcast signal out and into the homes. Many viewers across the state are getting underway with live steaming on their net and thus accessible to households who have home computers, as viewers move into 2009, and they are rapidly approaching 98 to 99% of households. This is my number, which I can't qualify, but I suspect it is too high. In terms of people who have a home computer, this would access what we are doing here. This continues to remain a high item for the Speaker to be transparent and open as possible when it comes to State government. Making this happen from a financial standpoint is something that the Speaker has requested a time line. I advised the Speaker that this information would be announced. There will be a certain amount of disruption because wires need to be pulled and cameras need to be installed. There would have to be some disruption because the House of Representatives goes into session on 1-28-09. One of the things I have discussed with the Speaker was that even though the committee's recommendation was to get up with live streaming on the Internet, all the equipment that is purchased and installed is broadcast quality and ready to begin broadcasting at a later date. Even streaming live on the Internet the General Assembly's signal would be of sufficient quality for television stations throughout the state to directly take information off the Internet for their news cast pleasing the broadcasters.

Mark Prak stated he thinks it will enhance television covering of the General Assembly.

The Chair agreed because the broadcaster wouldn't have to send a crew here to the General Assembly, as it would be available to them from the Internet. Before we get in to the final reports, does anyone in the audience have any comments at this time?

Randy Fraser said he would like to say on behalf of APT, we appreciated the opportunity to be heard by the committee and are encouraged by seeing the outcome in the next several months.

Mark Prak said I have been here for some of the meetings and I work for the broadcast industry. I want to say I have enjoyed watching your committee work. Mr. Chairman, you have done a great job, and I have also enjoyed watching the dynamic between the members. I spent time at the the General Assembly observing some issues and it has been interesting to see how collegial this discussion transpired. I just want to compliment your committee.

Mr. John Shaw said he had made some comments earlier to the committee and he wanted to reemphasize that it would be very helpful if the General Assembly supplied

audio only or video preferably for the archives. People who have missed a committee meeting due to two committee meetings being held at the same time, can look at or listen to it later.

The Chair agreed with Mr. Shaw and stated the committee has discussed this situation and thinks it is certainly doable.

Tom Howe said he would like to agree with what Randy stated I appreciate the opportunity to be heard but also I want to emphasize again that if the equipment were installed and a feeder were available, it would save us considerable expense in not having to be in the same rooms where the feed was coming out. It will be possible for us to produce Legislative Week in Review. It is a real strain on our budget during these tough economic times. It would create tremendous efficiencies in our coverage of what occurs in the General Assembly.

The Chair requested comments from the committee.

Representative Killian said as he has read the Draft Report. It seems that to differ from what the committee had discussed before and it does not include the changes the committee made. Having said that, he thinks the committee recommended a favorable report.

The Chair recognized Ms. Carter who said there is one thing that was left out of the Final Report Draft. It was recommendation number 4, the third sentence from the last page, which states the committee recommended that the House of Representatives work with the cable industry. During the last meeting the members said UNC-TV to expand in their coverage. This needs to be inserted before the Report is finalized.

The Chair said that was correct, as the committee agreed to that at the last minute.


Representative Dickson said she was pleased and looked forward to the House having the money to put this program in place.

The Chair asked Ms. Denise Weeks if she had any comments she would like to make today.

Ms. Weeks answered no.

The Chair said Representative Killian agreed to a favorable report and obviously we do not have a forum. However, hearing no objection the members will precede with the two voting members, the committee will send this report to the Speaker, which states that the committee recommendation is to start web casting through the Internet the House sessions along with some Committee Meetings. The Speaker will be pleased.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:25 A.M.



Representative Cullie M. Tarleton
Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Neal,
Committee Clerk

Attachments

Exhibit A	Visitor Registration Listing
Exhibit B	Draft Copy of Final Report

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 12-18-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Carl Davis	UNC-TV
Tom Howe	UNC-TV
Fran Wescott	OPEN/net
IM HOFFMAN	NCAT
Gandy Fraser	APT
Ben Niolet	N+O
Bill Holmes	Speaker's office
Dennis McCarty	NCGA
Sammy Robinson	TW CABLE
Bill RAMSEY	APT
Amanda Hubbard	APT
JOHN SHAW	SELF

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

HOUSE SELECT COMM. ON TELEVISION HOUSE SESSIONS 12-18-08
Name of Committee Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

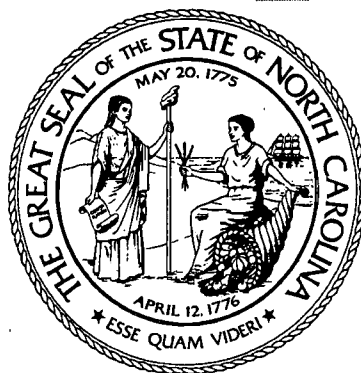
NAME

FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS

Mark Bran

BRMA

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON
TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS**



**REPORT TO THE
NORTH CAROLINA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

December 2008

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HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS



December 18, 2008

TO THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Attached for your consideration is the report of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Cullie Tarleton

Chair

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

PREFACE

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions was authorized by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on September 9, 2008. The Committee was directed to study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The Committee was also directed to review and assess current television access to State Government and how it compares to other states and the federal government, and any other related matters. The letter of authorization, which includes the full membership of the Committee, is included in Appendix A of this report.

Representative Cullie Tarleton chaired the Committee. A committee notebook containing the committee minutes and all information presented to the committee will be filed in the Legislative Library by the end of the 2007-2008 biennium.

COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions met five times. At each meeting the Committee provided interested parties an opportunity to be heard on the issues and received public comment.

October 1, 2008 Meeting

The first meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions was held on October 1, 2008. The meeting began with introductions and opening remarks by Committee Chair Representative Cullie Tarleton, followed by a review of the charge of the Committee and introductory comments by the members of the Committee. Members commented on the importance of open government and expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to explore the possibilities of televising House Sessions.

Heather Fennell, Committee Co-Counsel, presented information on what other state legislatures are doing with regard to broadcasting or web casting floor sessions and committee meetings. Thirty-two state legislatures offer video web casts of the legislature, and twenty-eight states offer over-the-air broadcasts of the legislature.

Peter Capriglione, the Committee's Legislative Analyst for Information Technology, presented information on the infrastructure of the Legislative Building and the estimated cost of televising House Sessions. Mr. Capriglione noted that web casting sessions could be less expensive than televising sessions due to the difference in camera quality that is required for each application. Initial cost estimates for the purchase and installation of equipment required to provide video coverage of House floor sessions and select House committee meetings would be \$1.3 million dollars, with approximately half of that amount being used for equipment. There would be an additional recurring cost of approximately \$600,000 a year to provide staff and additional equipment.

Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director of the Agency for Public Television, addressed comments to the Committee. She was accompanied by **Randy Fraser, Chair**

of the Board of the Agency for Public Television. Mr. Fraser gave a brief overview of the history and mission of the Agency.

After the presentations, the chair opened the floor for committee discussion and questions.

October 21, 2008 Meeting

The second meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions was held on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

The Committee heard from **Steve Senyk, Director of Media Services with the Minnesota Senate**. Minnesota reportedly has one of the best working models on televising State government in the country. Mr. Senyk's department produces broadcasts of Senate floor and committee proceedings, along with weekly PBS-distributed public affairs shows, issue segments, historical features, civic education videos, and news pool feeds. Mr. Senyk suggested that the Committee first determine the goal of its broadcast program, and how to achieve that goal within the available budget. He noted that producing video coverage of the legislature will involve a lot of day-to-day decision making. The Minnesota Senate does not cover all of its proceedings gavel to gavel, as they do not run a 24/7 network. It therefore leaves production to one trusted executive to make decisions as to what will be televised on a daily basis. To protect the interests of the legislature as an institution, Senyk suggested that this producer should be someone who is as knowledgeable about the legislature as he or she is about television production.

The Minnesota Senate delivers programming through several partnerships, involving PBS, Minnesota Public Television, and the Greater Minnesota Cable Association. The Minnesota Senate began televising in 1985 with a budget of \$500,000 showing a capital investment of \$3 million over 17 years, which equals approximately \$265,000 annually. Today their operating cost is \$1.5 million, which includes distribution. The Minnesota Senate pays for broadcast services, since running legislative programs can impact a broadcaster's ability to increase revenue from other programming sources. Senyk indicated that in one recent year, his office negotiated \$600,000 for

broadcasting fees. In 2008 the Senate had coverage in 8,500 to 12,000 homes; the previous year was estimated at 4,000 to 6,000, peaking at 8,000. Senyk noted that during primetime in the late 90s, the Senate televised a controversial issue and ratings for that program were larger than some of the major news networks (CNN, MSNBC, and Fox), which indicates that interest in government programming is often topic driven. The Minnesota Senate provides pool feeds which enable the dissemination of information to millions of people immediately. Live web casts are also made available to the public, and records show 4,000 to 6,000 hits during live web casts as compared to 12,000 hits for archived programs.

Senyk responded to questions from the Committee concerning issues of partisanship, programming, budget, and equipment. Senyk indicated that his startup costs included building a studio for interviewing and also the purchase of portable cameras and switchers. The Senate purchased 16 robotic cameras and other equipment at a cost of approximately \$1 million. Minnesota Senate Media Services has 6 permanent key employees in television production, plus 3 part time employees during the legislative sessions. According to Senyk, hiring full time key people with the knowledge to be able to operate quickly when the legislature is in session is vital. In order to build internal respect for the program, Senyk advised having a permanent producer and director with enough in depth knowledge of the legislature to be able to produce appropriate television coverage.

The Committee then heard from **Mr. Tom Howe, Director and General Manager of UNC-TV**. Mr. Howe indicated that approximately one half of UNC-TV's budget is provided by the General Assembly. UNC-TV has provided limited coverage of the General Assembly for several decades, integrating legislative coverage with other public affairs programming. When the General Assembly is in session, UNC-TV produces a weekly one hour program that features coverage of the legislature. This program requires a significant commitment from camera operators, writers, associate producers, producers, and reporters. Howe noted that UNC-TV is about 50% state funded; the cost of coverage of public affairs is about 28% state funded. The cost of PBS is continuously increasing; the General Assembly pays PBS almost \$4 million per year.

Mr. Howe indicates that providing greater access to the public is good public policy, and suggested that the legislature work with the Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT) to provide video coverage of the legislature. He noted that APT is designated by statute to be the video arm of government, and believes that APT could appropriately have a role in producing coverage of legislative sessions or committee meetings. Although Howe indicated he could not take a public position supporting appropriations for televising House sessions, except to say that he thinks it is good public policy and that he is really glad this committee is investing time in the issue.

Mr. Howe said that in terms of coverage from the General Assembly, he thinks the most appropriate outlet would be the web and cable access channels. Howe also indicated that if the House were to provide television coverage and provide a pool feed, it could be a tremendous asset for UNC-TV in the production of their weekly shows. For example, if APT was filming and was doing a feed from the House floor, UNC-TV would not have to be on the floor with their cameras. If APT was providing a feed from a committee meeting, UNC-TV could get that feed. Howe indicated that a pool feed from the House could be available to a news channel in Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte, or anywhere in the State.

Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director of the NC Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT), made a presentation to the Committee concerning the services of her agency and how they might play a role in the production of televised coverage of the House of Representatives. Ms. Hoffman provided information indicating that within 9 to 12 months her agency could acquire equipment and supplies to begin televising proceedings of the House. When asked what that would cost and what service would be provided for that investment, Ms. Hoffman replied that about \$700,000 would be required for an equipment package. APT would put cameras in the chambers, Appropriations and Finance Committee Rooms, and in 3 additional committee rooms on the 1st floor of the legislative building, along with a roll around cart. APT would need the equipment to take those signals across the street to their facility to package them and put on the graphics to stream or otherwise distribute the video. Ms. Hoffman indicated she would need a staff of 19 people at an annual cost of \$1 million to provide the

production, engineering, and other assistance necessary for the level of coverage proposed. Some programming could go out live, others could be web streamed and possibly held for later airing. Hoffman noted that the method of distribution is key. According to Ms. Hoffman's estimates, about 65% of North Carolina households receive cable television. APT probably reaches about 85% of that, which is 4 to 5 million. Chairman Tarleton noted that APT is a resource that we are lucky to have in North Carolina, and recognized Randy Fraser, who is the Chairman of the Board for APT.

The Committee then heard from **Mr. Mike Williams, Cable Administrator with Raleigh Television Network (RTN)**, which provides coverage of local government meetings. Mr. Williams works for the City of Raleigh and reports to the city's Public Affairs Director. RTN is a 4-channel local public education government programming operation. The channels are made available to RTN through a franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable, and their programming is available to most of the residents of Wake County. RTN's goal is to provide information about what's happening within the city, and coverage includes city council and commission meetings, and capital projects including downtown development. Williams indicated that in the early days of RTN's production, he was told the programming could be rated as being somewhere between "not interesting" and "a little boring".

Mr. Williams predicted that if the House decides to televise its sessions, it will take between 6 to 18 months to go live, depending on the complexity. This is considered a reasonable time frame. Williams noted that when RTN launched, it had obsolete equipment. They upgraded the equipment about 4 years ago at a cost of a little over \$1 million to provide acceptable quality for broadcasts. RTN now has remote controlled cameras in the city council chambers, and has upgraded its studio on Martin Street. Committee members were invited to visit RTN operations. Williams reported that RTN has gone all digital, both computer and software driven. They have a studio with 3 cameras installed, with the capability of increasing that amount. The network uses 12 portable cameras. The staff consists of 9 people producing programming and providing training for community users.

Williams advised that when televising proceedings from the legislative building, the lighting will have to be designed for the rooms and the control room may require upgrading the air conditioning system. Williams has found that interest in having government proceedings televised is much higher than originally thought. Members of the city council have said they have received a lot of positive feedback from constituents regarding televised coverage, and indicate that more viewers in the community ask important questions and are more aware of community functions. He noted that viewers do not like watching poor quality programming, with poor sound. Therefore, RTN has found it necessary to upgrade or replace equipment on a regular basis. In response to a question about how the network maintains a non-partisan nature, Williams responded that the city council understands that looking at something from a partisan viewpoint is not beneficial for the broadcast program. They do get requests occasionally for partisan programming, but the city manager and the network director have veto power. Partisanship has therefore not been a major issue.

Chairman Tarleton recognized Mr. John Shaw from the audience, who wished to make a comment. Mr. Shaw said he was a private citizen from Cary, NC who likes to keep up with what is happening in government, and express his opinions to elected officials about different issues, especially the environment. He makes an effort to attend legislative committee meetings in person, but he is unable to attend as often as he would like. He listens to floor sessions at home through the Internet, but indicated that televising sessions would be much better. What goes on in the legislature overlaps as the House and Senate are often in session at the same time, and generally more than one committee meeting is occurring at any given time. If possible, Mr. Shaw would like for the legislature to have archiving—and to have video coverage.

Chairman Tarleton then recognized **Ms. Catharine Rice, Vice President of Citoba**, an association of local government cable regulators and the public education and government programmers. Ms. Rice noted that a lot more interest is being generated in public education and government (PEG) channels, and local communities are putting together scarce resources to build these channels up. Citoba has counted about 345

channels in communities across the state; some of those channels are being sent to more than one community.

The Committee was given information concerning an Elon University poll that was very positive about televising House sessions, indicating that there is a demand as well as significant interest.

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November 12, 2008 Meeting

Committee staff presented information concerning a number of models for governance and distribution of video coverage of legislative proceedings. In some states, filming, video taping, or audio taping during the legislative session is done under conditions designated by the presiding officer of the legislative body, and taping or filming of sessions of committees is permissible with the prior consent of the Chairperson of the committee involved. In some states, policy directives regarding filming are developed and recommended by a designated committee and adopted by a majority vote of the elected members of the legislative body.

Committee Staff also presented three options for live video coverage of house floor sessions and selected committee meetings. The three options discussed were:

- Option 1 - Web streaming only – no television broadcasting in future;
- Option 2 - Web streaming to start - television broadcast later, and;
- Option 3 - television broadcast to start – Web streaming, a complement medium with this decision.

The committee discussion focused on option two.

Cost Estimates for the project range from \$250,000 to \$2,000,000. Many factors contribute to the overall cost for a project of this size. Three factors that are prominent in any project are vendor selection, type and quality of the equipment purchased and unforeseen expenses during the requirements phase and the installation phase.

The initial startup costs are estimated at \$1,315,000. The initial hardware and software costs are estimated at \$815,000; recurring costs of \$500,000 include staff, internet connections, and hardware and software maintenance as well the anticipated cost for closed captioning. The additional costs of cable/broadcasting distribution is projected to be in the range of \$600,000, based on Minnesota's cost for a five day a week 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. broadcast window, to as much as \$1,000,000. The one million dollar figure represents the value of a cable channel in the industry.

The startup and recurring costs for Option 2 are estimated to be less than starting with full live cablecasting and webcasting. This lower initial cost is due in part to the

difference in equipment and staffing requirements. However, the cameras that are included in the cost estimates have specifications to allow for a high quality video image for web casting and a video image that could be sent to a media feed in the legislative building. Experts in the field have identified the need for a quality image and for equipment to produce the image as one of the most critical aspects of a live video broadcast. In addition, the minimum projected life span of the video equipment is estimated at ten years. The technology of the equipment researched was to insure that it could be upgraded so it would evolve as the technology evolved. Moreover, the estimated costs are a guideline to the project. The project team should consult and learn from states that are in the business today of live broadcast coverage so that this State would be able to mitigate any of the problems other states experienced during their projects. Moreover, equipment demonstrations must be done to insure the products purchased will meet the needs of the live broadcast coverage. This upfront work will help to lay a foundation for the project to be successfully implemented in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

The Committee also heard from **Brad Phillips, President of the NC Cable Telecommunications Association and Vice President of Government Public Affairs for Time Warner Cable.**

December 1, 2008 Meeting

At its fourth meeting the Committee conducted a review of all the information previously received by the Committee, and engaged in an open discussion of proposed findings and recommendations for the Committee's report.

December 18, 2008

The Committee met and adopted its final report containing its findings and recommendations to the North Carolina House of Representatives.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Findings

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions makes the following findings:

1. Forty-three state legislatures have webcasts of some sort – either video or audio, or both; thirty-two of these states webcast video coverage of the legislature.
2. Twenty-eight state legislatures have some form of over-the-air broadcasting of television coverage of the legislature.
3. North Carolina currently webcasts audio coverage of House and Senate floor sessions, and of meetings in the Finance and Appropriations Committee Rooms.
4. State government in North Carolina should be as open and as transparent as possible. Citizens should be able to see and understand how their government and their elected representatives work for them.
5. A video webcast and/or cablecast of the North Carolina House of Representatives would serve the public's interest by giving people throughout the state greater access and understanding of their State government and enabling them to watch their representatives at work.
6. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would be a step forward towards increasing openness and accountability of State government.
7. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would contribute to a better-informed electorate and lead to greater public awareness of issues vital to the State.

Recommendations

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions heard significant testimony and had extensive discussion on the benefits of televising House sessions. To provide the citizens across the State of North Carolina greater access to the proceedings of the House, the Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, gavel-to-gavel video coverage of floor debate whenever the House is in session.

2. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, video coverage of selected committee meetings – including the Finance and Appropriations Committees.
3. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives begin by providing video coverage of its sessions using video streaming technology, so that citizens can tune in using a personal computer.
4. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives work with the cable industry to expand video coverage by providing for the statewide distribution of cablecasts of legislative sessions and committee meetings.
5. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives provide for the purchase of the required equipment for the production of broadcast-quality video coverage of the House and its committees.
6. The Committee recommends that all video programming be produced and created by the North Carolina House of Representatives and its employees.
7. The Committee recommends that the Information Systems Division of the North Carolina General Assembly oversee the acquisition, installation and maintenance of equipment for video broadcasts of the House of Representatives and for the continued development and operation of video broadcasts, including the letting of contracts and the hiring of necessary personnel.
8. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives utilize the Agency for Public Telecommunications for distribution of cablecast programming coverage of the North Carolina House of Representatives.
9. The Committee recommends that the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee, in consultation with the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader establish policies governing the webcast/cablecast program of the House of Representatives, including the content, selection, and editorial policies governing the program.
10. The Committee recommends that video coverage of the House of Representatives provide a complete unedited transmission of what is said on the floor of the House or in its committees, and be free from commentary. The House of Representatives should provide video programming that is fair, accurate, balanced and without undue regard to partisanship or ideology.
11. The Committee recommends that tapes or digital video recordings of webcasts and cablecasts not be deemed an official record of proceedings of the House of Representatives.

12. The Committee recommends that the Speaker of the House of Representatives reestablish the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions for the 2009-1010 biennium, and that the Committee continue to review aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings of the House of Representatives.

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APPENDIX A



**Office of Speaker Joe Hackney
North Carolina House of Representatives
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096**

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS

**TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Section 1. The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions (hereinafter "Committee") is established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

Section 2. The Committee consists of the 8 members listed below, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives may dissolve the Committee at any time.

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair
Representative Linda Coleman
Representative Margaret Dickson
Representative Ric Killian
Representative Grier Martin
Representative Mitch Setzer
Representative Thom Tillis
Denise Weeks, Advisory Member

Section 3. The Committee shall study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The Committee shall review and assess current television access to State Government and how it compares to other states and the federal government. The committee shall study any other related matter.

Section 4. The Committee shall meet upon the call of its Chairs. A quorum of the Committee shall be a majority of its members.

Section 5. The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes.

Section 6. Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as provided in G.S. 120-3.1.

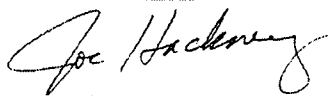
Section 7. The expenses of the Committee including per diem, subsistence, travel allowances for Committee members, and contracts for professional or consultant services shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-32.02(c) and G.S. 120-35 from funds available to the House of Representatives for its operations. Individual expenses of \$5,000 or less, including per diem, travel, and subsistence expenses of members of the Committee, and clerical expenses shall be paid upon the authorization of the Chair of the Committee. Individual expenses in excess of \$5,000 shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 8. The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical support staff to the Committee.

Section 9. The Committee may meet at various locations around the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

Section 10. The Committee shall submit a final report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the House of Representatives on or before December 31, 2008, by filing the final report with the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the House Principal Clerk, and the Legislative Library. The Committee terminates on December 31, 2008, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

Effective this 9th day of September 2008.



Joe Hackney
Speaker

9/9/2008 3:39 PM

Committee Staff

Legislative Analysts

Brenda Carter
Heather Fennell
Research Division
(919) 733-2578

Peter Capriglione
Information Services Division
(919) 733-6660

Clerk

Linda Neal
(919) 733-7727

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HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS

DECEMBER 1, 2008

ROOM 1228 10:00 A.M.

REPRESENTATIVE CULLIE M. TARLETON, CHAIRMAN

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman, called to order the fourth meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions at 10:05 A.M. on Monday, December 1, 2008. Representatives Margaret Highsmith Dickson, Ric Killian, Grier Martin, and Thom Tillis were in attendance along with Advisory Member, Denise Weeks. The chair stated he had only heard from one member who will not be in attendance.

The Chair also recognized staff Brenda Carter, Heather Fennell, and Peter Capriglione along with Committee Clerk, Linda Neal. Also in attendance were Fred Hines, Marvin Lee, Reggie Sills, and Frank Prevo with the Sergeant-At Arms Division.

The Agenda for the committee meeting is attached and listed as Exhibit A. Also attached is the Visitor Registration Listing as shown as Exhibit B.

The Chair said the primary purpose of this meeting is for the committee to review the findings and final recommendations. There will be no votes taken today. This meeting will be devoted to carefully reviewing those recommendations and making any changes that the committee deems appropriate and are necessary. During the committee's last meeting, this will occur on Thursday, December 18th, and will be the final meeting for this year. The committee will vote on these recommendations. The Chair recognized Brenda Carter, who will review with the committee and with those in attendance the Findings and Recommendations as per attachment labeled Exhibit C (part 1 and 2). When Brenda gets to the listed recommendations, anyone who would like to make a comment including members of the audience, please stand and for the record speak loudly giving your name and the organization, which you represent. The Committee will be happy to hear your comments and thoughts.

Brenda came forward and said she had a proposed list of findings and recommendations based on the discussions that have been held in the committee to date. Let's go through the findings quickly and then the committee will proceed to the recommendations, which the members will go through one at a time. Brenda reviewed the entire Findings listing one through seven as per attached without any comments from the committee members.

However, after reading recommendation number 1, Representative Killian asked Brenda to define video

Brenda said staff used the word video because the recommendation to web casting and broadcasting comes later than what the committee had discussed. This initial finding means that there should be some type of picture out there.

After Brenda read recommendation number 4, the Chair stated the reason for listing this recommendation. I have continued to have discussions outside the committee with both the cable industry and with UNC-TV. Nothing definitive as yet has come out of those discussions other than the acknowledgement that they want to be cooperative and understands what the committee is trying to accomplish. They want to be solution orientated. But, the world of television is going to turn upside down in February. A lot of on going changes will be occurring. All of the changes are not going to happen in February. What I want to do is to continue those discussions as we move this process forward both with the cable industry and with UNC-TV in an effort to see if the committee can work out a distribution system allowing the General Assembly to get coverage into people's homes. As you recall, at the very first of these meetings, I said getting the signal out of here is just money. That is what it is all about. But, getting it into people's homes is continuing to be the issue. The General Assembly will continue those discussions. The Chair thinks the General Assembly is making progress. Therefore, the Chair wanted one of the recommendations to acknowledge that, and let people know that the General Assembly would continue the discussion with the cable industry and UNC-TV trying to decide and agree upon the distribution system.

Representative Dickson had a question after Brenda completed reading recommendation number 5. Representative Dickson stated she agreed with the recommendation. But, she asked are there any economies of scale in the purchase of camera equipment. Is the Senate to be involved in this as well?

The Chair said you get a better price if you purchase more than 6 instead of 3. Probably. I don't think it is huge. Anyone in the audience, please correct me if I am wrong.

After Brenda read recommendation number 7, Representative Tillis had a question. Why would the committee necessarily decide on this recommendation, as the members have always discussed several possibilities for the responsibility of the acquisition, installation, and maintenance of the equipment? The idea of taking a look at leveraging any of the existing options, they are out there as a Phase I. There may be a Phase II out there. That is one of the things I think we should discuss today.

The Chair said now was the time to discuss this, as these were the recommendations. I think it is appropriate that ISD do this, as they are best equipped. I am certainly open to any comments anyone else would like to make.

Representative Martin said if members accept the recommendation that the House of Representative and their employees produce this, what other opportunities may be available to us.

Representative Tillis said the reason why he brought up the question is why the committee can't put out a request to 2 or 3 outside sources that can supply this service and cost to the committee. It would be a market check to find out about existing opportunities.

Representative Grier asked Representative Tillis what kind of services he thinks maybe out there.

Representative Tillis said he does not know about this industry. I don't know what extent you can have video production. People who actually capture the data to be produced by internal resources. I don't know if it goes that far. I was thinking more about the underlying web infrastructure that has to be in place, the application environments necessary to capture, tag, and index all of this content. Structuring it more in terms to information management technology that is out there, which needs to be structured and thought through. Find out if there are things out there that the committee does not know. You will be amazed how much information you get from a request for information whether you ultimately engage an outside firm or use that information to better guide and refine a very new area for us. Peter may be in a better position than anybody here. What depth of expertise is in house right now to do this? Peter can start to at least provide the committee with a basis for doing this.

Representative Dickson said this is part of what the General Assembly's IS Division people do and the committee needs to move forward to establish this web stream.

The Chair calls on Peter to make comments.

Peter said a couple of other states uses outside companies to get the stream on the edge of the Internet. ISD could shoot the General Assembly's stream off to outside sources as well as doing the tagging. Staff has looked at these options. The General Assembly can look at any type of outsource suggested.

Representative Tillis said I have a tremendous amount of respect for our IS Division. It is more of matter of is the General Assembly going through. I don't know how many times I have thought about this. How are you indexing the content that's responsible for it? How are you leveraging it? There has got to be a lot of best practices out there. It is more of a matter of being certain that the General Assembly doesn't all of a sudden buy it and start sending employees to school, than a outsource organization. It is more of the intent. Don't build something that can be leveraged or bought, and exploit it. Don't re-invent the wheel if the wheel has already been invented.

Representative Killian asked Peter if he would be in charge of this procedure. What you will do then would be to bid this service out, look at what the public sector has to provide to you versus what can be provided internally. Then you would make the decision as what is most cost effective and what is most expensive.

Peter said staff would not make the decision. ISD will present their findings to Services Committee, which makes final the decision. The staff does go out for bids on a lot of network equipment for safe contract laws or for something of that nature.

Representative Killian said for the purpose of insuring the committee is getting the best bang for the buck so to speak, is charging ISD for doing this a part of the procedure? Will this be bid out to insure we get the best price or will ISD create an organization, which I am Ok with? If that is what staff is saying about the process? If it is not, I would be concerned. But, if it is, I agree with the committee.

The Chair asked if everyone was satisfied with the way recommendation number 7 is written or do they want to make any changes.

Representative Tillis said that as long as ISD has that direction going in, I vote that any specific wording changes are considered unnecessary. With reference to recommendation number 8, Representative Tillis asked Chair what was his implications for this recommendation.

The Chair said one of the things this would specifically address would be that APT currently leases transponders space on satellites. We would cooperate and work with them to possibly utilize some of that transponders space. The alternative would be leasing it on our own versus using something that already exists. In time all of that has to be worked out. The members want this to be here to utilize that service, and take advantage of that opportunity.

Representative Martin said will the role that APT has here is taking the signal that we kick out of our complex and sending it to the cable cast or is it something beyond that.

The Chair said possibly something beyond that. Assuming that the General Assembly works out a cable distribution agreement, we could use the facilities of APT to get it to the cable industry and/or in addition to put it up on satellite using their current transponder space they have leased. That is how APT distributes to cable systems around the state is via satellite.

Representative Martin said, so I understand this, they will bear the role in a web cast.

The Chair said correct.

Representative Killian wanted to ask a question about recommendation number 9. He said to continue the discussion made in the last committee meeting, I don't think I made the point; but, I want to make it clear now. It is imperative to insure that the perception of the governing structure is non partisan. Regardless who is charge to do acts in a non partisan way? If it is able to be perceived the Legislature is not non partisan, it will challenge the integrity of the General Assembly. In the recommendation for number

9, the Speaker is responsible for this. I don't agree that this should be the Speaker. I would recommend that it be the Clerk. The Clerk's office performs their duties in a very non partisan way. They are charged with treating each member the same regardless of our status. Their office is probably the best solution in terms of insuring integrity.

The Chair asked Denise Weeks if she had any comments.

Denise said in many states it is unusual that the responsibility lies with the Clerk's office. She said the Clerk's office tries very hard to be non partisan and that's the way the office is run.

The Chair said personally I do like the idea of this being under the direction of provision and control of the Speaker or the Speaker's designee. I fully understand Representative Killian's point about non partisan. How might we amend the language to make the non-partisan point?

Representative Killian said to strike the Speaker's office and add the Clerk's office.

The Chair stated he did not agree with that.

Representative Martin said he shared the Chair's concerns. That doesn't necessary lead us to the Clerk as one solution. The Speaker controls the conduct of the bodies of the debate. This is arguably part of that. But this doesn't mean it should be under the control of the Speaker. I do agree that this Speaker would be non partisan. It is not too hard to envision a Speaker ship that could be abusive, which the committee needs to prevent. Let's look at the consultation of the Minority Leader setting up a committee; wherein, the Speaker is in charge.

Representative Tillis said one question I would have to make is consistent. It seems to me now that the Clerk's office is primarily responsible for memorializing the proceedings of the legislative body as it is today. What we are trying to do here is memorialize that with a different format. It seems absolutely consistent to have that fall under the curfew of the Clerk's office. Under the Clerk's control in consultation with the Speaker and the Minority Leader, it would be consistent with the practice we already have today for web tent and anything else becomes memorialized as a part of the legislative proceeding. There has got to be someone that can get the thing done. But it seems to me that this is another mechanism for memorializing our proceedings and why I think it is consistent to these when it should be under the Clerk's control.

Representative Martin said it has several possible answers. Hawaii's policy states that content selection and editorial policy shall be administered by the Speaker of the House with no control at all. Special programming that allows the Speaker or designee of special programming in consultation with the House Majority Leader and House Minority Leader. It makes sense to put that protection there in the overall responsibilities.

Representative Dickson said leadership should be making decisions about non partisan.

The Chair said the Clerk's office keeps the official journal of the House. If you look ahead at recommendation number 12, which these web casts and cablecasts should not be deemed the official record of proceedings of the House of Representatives. The official record will continue to be Clerk's office.

Representative Killian said I would not agree because consulting the Minority Leader doesn't necessarily involve having any input. With respect to keep in my mind the concern is for the perception. My concern is really coming from a ruling of perception. In the end, what it comes down to is probably not a decision that I would anticipate the Clerk to be making either. Maybe it is a Highbred. Maybe it is a committee formed of an equal number of members of each party similar to this committee, which would make policy decisions. The Administration of the effort itself should come from the Clerk's office.

Representative Martin said this grave discussion is real important. The Committee needs to be very concerned about it. Representative Killian is on to something with the formation of a committee to deal with non partisan when in session on the floor or in a committee room. Maybe the committee is on to something with the General Assembly's entire committee structure. Whoever ends up on the losing side isn't always happy with it; but, most members feel they have given their input even if they were outvoted. But in the end, it does need to be under the Speaker's office. That is just not a decision the Clerk's office is set up to make. Whereas, it is a decision the Speaker's Office does make, it is a decision that the General Assembly needs to protect from abuse.

The Chair said coming from a business background, it has not occurred to me that someone wouldn't be covered because they were a member of the Minority party. The camera goes where the action is and who is speaking doesn't make decisions based on which party they belong to. What's being said and done is what is being televised. I am fully prepared to amend the language in 9 to make the very strong point that what the committee is talking about is non partisan coverage. The last sentence states, "The House of Representatives should provide video programming that is fair, accurate, balanced and without regard to partisanship or ideology." Doesn't that answer what we have been talking about?

Representative Tillis said he thinks his suggestion specifically stating the involvement of the Minority Leader is a good safe guard. The General Assembly is a body of rules. You either have people follow the letter in the spirit of the rules or they don't. If the General Assembly had a Majority Leader in the future that didn't do that, the Legislators would get more cameras pointed that way than any other way. From an administrative standpoint these rules will evolve. The Clerk does play a big role in the record. Representative Dickson's point about not politicizing the Clerk's office is absolutely critical because it is what provides the General Assembly with all the

credibility it has today. My colleague would like to see this under the control of the Clerk. Based on the discussion the committee could at least modify this to include the Minority Leader as being actually consulted. It would be a good amendment.

The Chair asked if the committee would like to see specific language and suggested with the participation of the Minority Leader. Is that not specific or strong enough.

Representative Martin said wise language is good with the House Majority and Minority Leader. I like it because it suggests that the Speaker in this capacity should be a little bit above politics, as the House Majority Leader advocates for him.

Representative Killian said another possibility might be the inclusion of an additional paragraph indicating that policy making is made by a Special Committee or a Committee of the House in this session or future sessions. This committee will consist of an equal number of members from each party. The second sentence being the administration is conducted by the House Principal Clerk's Office. The only answer is to insure that the reception is making sure the cameramen point the camera. That is what you have to be concerned about. A committee, which has an equal number of members. would allow one side to verbatim, regardless. That is the party that I am interested.

Representative Dickson said I understand that you are trying to look down the road to see every cow patty we might fall into. This will be something that will evolve over time. The legislature will start very slowly in a conservative way with just web cast. Then over time, a Speaker may want to establish something. I am not sure the General Assembly needs to establish that from the get go. The General Assembly is not there yet. I am not sure the committee can think that far ahead.

The Chair said how about this language at the end of 9. The Speaker and his designee shall consult with the House Minority Leader to establish any policies of the program.

Representative Killian said he doesn't believe that does it.

Representative Martin said instead of setting up a separate committee, the committee members should consider recommendations that no one thinks that the Speaker is correcting the cameras and see who or who is not going to get airtime. Hawaii enshrines in their rules where the camera goes. They say that the coverage shall include the Speaker recognized by the Chair or providing officer with occasional shots of the entire committee shall be allowed. However, close up reaction shots shall not be permitted. I think that is there to address the exact same concerns you have to say to the public and to say to the members that edit the selection of where the camera needs to be. Would the committee be more comfortable if the members place something like that in the recommendations?

Representative Killian said the committee's goal was to determine if televising House sessions are viable. This is a good thing and we ought to do it. As we were charged, one of the intentions was to insure that the government structure was the best it could be. But, I also think we should have those discussions in the future. I don't have the knowledge of the industry or technological expertise to discuss every detail. I would hope in the future there is a body in this House that has this knowledge to have those discussions.

The Chair asked members to look at recommendation 10. The Committee recommends that video coverage of the House of Representatives provide a complete unedited transmission of what is said on the floor of the House or in its committees, and be free from commentary. This means nothing added. No personal opinions about what coverage and what is taking place. The House of Representatives shall provide video programming that is fair, accurate, and balanced and without regard to partisanship or ideology. I don't know what else you could or how stronger you can make that statement to get across the point that this is fair, balanced, and non partisan. The Chair revised a sentence and read recommendation number 9 again stating the Speaker's designee with the participation of Minority Leader in establishing policies of the program.

Representative Martin said he doesn't think it adds a whole lot.

Representative Tillis said that may be captured by the Speaker's designee.

The Chair said that is true.

Representative Killian said the word balance could be used in the future to establish a committee, and there should be something added to acknowledge the Clerk's Office responsibility.

The Chair said ISD will be making the decisions of camera placements.

Representative Tillis said just to finalize the discussion about adding the Majority Leader for the reasons Representative Martin stated and adding a Minority Leader makes sense. It sets an assumption that a fair majority will engage minority to set the policies.

Representative Martin said some of those policies pointed out are already in the Hawaii resolution and probably other ones. On number 10 it is fair to say a lot of the debate on the floor is neither accurate nor valid.

The Chair said with the possible exception of Representative Killian are we in agreement on number 9? The committee recommends that the House of Representatives establish policies governing its web cast/cable cast/program along with the context selection and editorial policies governing the program be administered by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee with the participation of the Minority and Majority Leaders in establishing policies of the program. Do we need to do

number 10? Any questions or comments on number 10. We have pretty well debated that.

After Brenda read recommendation number 11, Representative Tillis said the committee was saying bona fide news organizations may not use this for political and commercial purposes, or anyone that happens to get access to the web feed. In other words, is that phrase specifically applied to the organization mentioned? If by definition in the same way that news feeds or audio recordings used for political purposes. What you say on the floor, you need to be answerable to. This is a prohibition that doesn't make sense. Do I want to intentionally have an audio clip of something that I think is at odds with a candidate in a future election? Absolutely. You are answerable to what you say on the floor.

Representative Martin stated he had a question for staff. I am not certain that we can legally prohibit some of these uses, otherwise exceptions to existing laws. I am not sure we can do that even if the committee wants to.

The Chair said he talked about this with staff at an earlier meeting. Most of the states that do use this recommendation have this provision in their resolution. However, it is not enforceable.

Randy Fraser with APT said he wanted to ask a question and make a couple of comments.

The Chair asked if his question was concerning number 10.

Randy said this is about number 11. I can see APT using some of the footage in an open net program or some other production like a series of programs from time to time. I don't know if APT would be considered, as it is not a news organization. I raised the question and cautioned from the standpoint of unintended consequences. There may be other state agencies or entities that would want to use the filming for a good purpose.

The Chair said the committee would not want to prohibit that. I am open to suggestions as to language.

Randy said my recommendation would be the committee recommends that news organizations, educational institutions, and other creditable entities such as APT may be authorized to utilize the programming material.

Representative Dickson said Legislative Week in Review uses clips from the House floor and from committee meetings as do other news organizations that come in from time to time. Once something enters the public domain, you can't get it back.

Mr. Brad Phillips with Time Warner Cable carries Legislative News Update. That is a program that we record right here in the building and there could be a possibility that we might want to use part of the committee meetings and floor activity in these

programs. We would not want to be prohibited from using those clips, but we are not necessarily a bona fide news organization.

Representative Tillis said I would propose that the committee delete one or both of the sentences. The concern I have would be political or commercial use. Even though other legislatures have not enforced it, it is a rule. If somebody breaks the rule, then that could be used for political purposes. If you use the video clip, you have broken the rule. Now you have violated a rule just by virtue of something that is not enforceable. I hope they can make sense of public content. I would definitely like an order to strike the second sentence. But, for the most part, we need a statement that says this information is out there for people to consume and it is unedited, fair, balanced, and accurate format that has been published. I don't see the need for the entire clause. Certainly, not for the second sentence.

Representative Dickson has a question for staff, "What does Congress do about this?"

The Chair said, Mark do you know about this?

Mr. Mark Prak with APT said it is basically public record. I can't tell you how much I appreciate what you are doing. Anything that opens this up is a great thing. But, this paragraph is problematic in every particular. The reason being you have hit on something. Representative Martin had a question. First of all, is public records law a question? Is a document or a thing created in course of doing public business a public record or not. The question Mr. Chairman is you would have the power to decide to restrict it in some way. But, that presents its own problems. For example, the attempt to suggest that people can't make use of it for political or commercial purposes potentially runs afoul of federal law. Because you have the fair use doctrine and then you have this issue of probably. In the last sentence, if we are going to be there, we need to say where it makes sense. Unauthorized political or commercial use of that would be prohibited, because the authorized use of it is what you want us to do. You want us to get it out to people. I think the committee is going to have to give it some thought because there are a lot of legal moving parts to this. We don't need to spend a lot of time on it. But, once the bell is rung, it's not within the power of government to tell the people they can't talk about the sound of the bell. The hard part about that is that here you have got a power question. But, what I would urge you to do is take the legal faith, make it a public record and not have to worry about that. Because you will deal with those issues that become problems with the systems that you are setting up. You will either have the coverage or not have it. To answer your question, at the federal level that is the way it is done. The way they deal with it is the control aspect in the House and in the Senate. C-Span is set up to create it, and is sensitive to that. You recall the history of C-Span, when the people making speeches, nobody was in the chamber. They decided to take that away from the chamber on occasion. These are all issues that Representative Dickson is saying down the road you can deal with. For example, the first sentence says the committee recommends that all bona fide news organizations and educational institutions should be authorized to utilize it. It doesn't say how to utilize it. It doesn't say they use anything

they want to. It doesn't say that all citizens can use it. Does a citizen who is watching it on the Internet violate this rule? There are definition issues in here that needs some understanding and some thought. I tend to think that Representative Tillis may have a point here. You might be better off making the decision for the public. But, that does require a leave. I understand because political people care about how they are going to be prejudged. I see a lot of political ads that goes out on radio and television, people's debates and their speeches. People follow people around with video cameras. We all know that this is just a part of politics. But, I understand how real it is for you. You have to balance that. My observation about these political ads is they always have the ugliest picture they can get. Even a handsome man or woman would not be recognizable by their mother after they have a photo shot in that ad. You have this law. If somebody came to me with a political ad requesting to take it off the air, I am going to clear that ad and it's going to go on the air. It's a candidate's ad, I can't sensor it. But, if it is an issue of a third party, it's going to be on air because that law would be in the constitution. You have lawyers to tell you that. But that is my considered judgment.

Mr. John Thompson, Executive Director of the NC Center for Voter Education said that first sentence does not affect us. We are not a bona fide news organization or educational institution. We are an organization that archives all sessions through audio. How would that address us? Would we be prohibited from putting it on our Internet radio station?

Representative Killian said he felt the committee could leave number 11.

Representative Martin said this is a good idea. I would like to toss out commercial use. I looked up C-Span's website. They actually do prohibit commercial use of their feed of their video. I can't think of why we wouldn't want commercial use of it. But, I worry that down the road, we don't want commercial use. If the video we have already produced is out, we can't put that back in the bottle. If we want to rely on non-commercial use, and certainly anyone who wants to use it commercially, could come to the Legislature for permission.

Mark said maybe Representative Martin made a point. But, there are plenty of production devices dealing with that. There maybe production or technological devices that staff can use to try to inhibit that from being done. But, again did they get the wrong question. How do you do it? One way to try looking at this would be do you want to copy write it? As you said, put it in a bottle and then license it to an open source. This is where you get into a public record question you will have to consider. You could try to have licensing control of it. That hasn't been the General Assembly's approach with public records documents. But, I think that one device is available. You could have staff use all technological devices necessary. Perhaps have prohibition on unlicensed commercial use.

Representative Martin said I still contend that the main value of this whole exercise is the educational value is really secondary. But, the main value is the open

government value and that's why the committee wants to get rid of as much of this as possible.

The Chair said back to your earlier point about C-Span. Does the committee want to hang on to the commercial provision?

Mark said you could probably do that. If that made you comfortable, you can deal with the question of licensing. For example, if you try to get distribution over one of the cable systems, television stations, or entities, we wouldn't carry your signal with the wording about inappropriate licensing. Now, that has the effect of margin of inhibiting the distribution of the material. It might be that is the way, as you can do this using either approach. You can do it making it public from the get go, or you can start with that approach and take that off, if you have a problem.

The Chair said how about something as simple as unauthorized commercial use of the material shall be prohibited.

Representative Dickson said an example of unauthorized commercial usage is if a member stood up and mentioned a company. And then the company wanted to use that quote. Is that unauthorized commercial use.

Heather Fennell with staff said that is the same as if a Representative comes in and says I really enjoyed my Duncan Doe nuts today. Lots of interesting things come off the floor. I think what they are trying to say is they don't want the members to endorse a product.

Representative Martin said if the committee decides to go with restricting commercial use, I wonder if we just look at C-Span that says all non commercial use shall be allowed.

The Chair asked Mark would it be your recommendation that the committee strike recommendation number 11 all together.

Mark said what I would legally do is strike it and consider whether I should add a sentence that it shall be a public record or you can leave that as an unanswered question. I always prefer dots to connect. But, that is a policy call for you.

Heather said that staff has discussed these issues and were trying to think of a broad policy statement for the committee. But, deciding how public issues would be treated, staff thought it would be handled by the policy making body over broadcasting, which states in number 9 would be the Speaker of the House. That is why the staff did not include a number recommendation about that. I can see that this attempt at a broad policy statement needs to be worked out further. Maybe, there shouldn't be a policy recommendation on that.

The Chair asked do you want the committee to strike it out.

Heather said yes.

After Brenda read recommendation number 12, Representative Killian said why is this recommendation listed? It would be conflicting with the official record.

The Chair said because that is the function of the Clerk's Office. The Clerk's record is the official record.

Denise said the Journal is the official record as provided for by the constitution.

Representative Killian said there can only be one official record.

The Chair said he would presume so and asked Denise if he was correct.

Denise said yes, that is correct.

Representative Tillis said he was going to say that the video needs to be unofficial.

Denise said the Journal is reviewed as proof at the beginning of the session. These videos do not have to be approved.

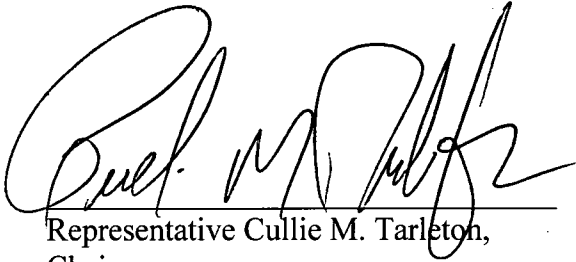
Representative Martin said I think it is clear on 12. We just need to be sure the members are all in agreement. Number 12 does not address all the statues of these recordings of the footage as public records according the North Carolina Public Record's law.

After Brenda read number 13, the Chair said he had asked the staff for this to be included because this biennial is over 12-31-08. As the members have ongoing discussions with people in the industry for example UNC-TV, and as the members want to implement what the committee's recommendations are, assuming that the House acts on the committee's recommendations, the committee will need this group or a group like this one to work through the formation. That is the reason for number 13 being listed, that concludes all recommendations of the committee now. Before the committee adjourns, at the 12-18-08 meeting, the members will vote on these recommendations. Each member and the Speaker will get fresh copies on the committee's official recommendation, because at that point the committee's recommendation will be completed. Does any one in the audience have any comments they would like to make before the committee adjourns. Does any member of the committee have any comments they would like to make before the committee adjourns.

Denise said just a few minutes ago something was said about the placement of the cameras in the chambers. In the past any equipment that involves the actual operations of House must be Okayed with the Clerk, which I would request that the committee does.

The Chair said I think everyone understands that and I am sure that is one of the many reasons why the Speaker put you on this committee as Advisory Member. The Chair then asked if there were any other comments or questions from the committee.

There being none, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:26 A.M.



Representative Cullie M. Tarleton,
Chairman

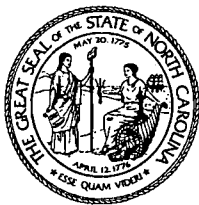
Respectfully submitted,

Linda Neal, Committee Assistant

Attachments

Exhibit A
Exhibit B
Exhibit C

Agenda
Visitor Registration Listing
Findings and Recommendations (2 parts)



House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

AGENDA

December 1, 2008
Room 1228, Legislative Building
10:00 AM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair

Introduction of Committee Members

Adoption of Minutes – November 12, 2008 Meeting

Review of Committee Report

Committee Discussion

Recognition of Interested Parties/Public Comment

Future Meetings/Instructions to Staff

Adjournment

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 12-1-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME

FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS

Julia Leggett	The Arc of NC
JOHN SHAW	SEER
Maras Trate	BPMHCL
MARK PRAN	"
Jack Stanley	TWC
Brad Phillips	TWC
Damon Cirisola	NC Center for Water ED *
John Thayer	" " *
Cam Coner	BPMHCL
LUY KOFFMAN	NCAPI
Fran Wescott	NCAPT

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

DRAFT

Findings

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions makes the following findings:

1. Forty-three state legislatures have webcasts of some sort – either video or audio, or both; thirty-two of these states webcast video coverage of the legislature.
2. Twenty-eight state legislatures have some form of over-the-air broadcasting of television coverage of the legislature.
3. North Carolina currently webcasts audio coverage of House and Senate floor sessions, and of meetings in the Finance and Appropriations Committee Rooms.
4. State government in North Carolina should be as open and as transparent as possible. Citizens should be able to see and understand how their government and their elected representatives work for them.
5. A video webcast and/or cablecast of the North Carolina House of Representatives would serve the public's interest by giving people throughout the state greater access and understanding of their State government and enabling them to watch their representatives at work
6. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would be a step forward towards increasing openness and accountability of State government.
7. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would contribute to a better-informed electorate and lead to greater public awareness of issues vital to the State.

Recommendations

The House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions heard significant testimony and had extensive discussion on the benefits of televising House sessions. To provide the citizens across the State of North Carolina greater access to the proceedings of the House, the Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, gavel-to-gavel video coverage of floor debate whenever the House is in session.

2. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, video coverage of selected committee meetings – including the Finance and Appropriations Committees.
3. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives begin by providing video coverage of its sessions using video streaming technology, so that citizens can tune in using a personal computer.
4. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives work with the cable industry and UNC-TV to expand video coverage by providing for the statewide distribution of cablecasts of legislative sessions and committee meetings.
5. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives provide for the purchase and installation of the required wiring and equipment for the production of broadcast-quality video coverage of the House and its committees.
6. The Committee recommends that all video programming be produced and created by the North Carolina House of Representatives and its employees.
7. The Committee recommends that the Information Systems Division of the North Carolina General Assembly be responsible for the acquisition, installation and maintenance of equipment for video broadcasts of the House of Representatives and for the continued development and operation of video broadcasts, including the hiring of necessary personnel.
8. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives utilize the Agency for Public Telecommunications for distribution of cablecast programming coverage of the North Carolina House of Representatives.
9. The Committee recommends that that the House of Representatives establish policies governing its webcast/cablecast program and that the content, selection, and editorial policies governing the program be administered by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee.
10. The Committee recommends that video coverage of the House of Representatives provide a complete unedited transmission of what is said on the floor of the House or in its committees, and be free from commentary. The House of Representatives should provide video programming that is fair, accurate, balanced and without regard to partisanship or ideology.
11. The Committee recommends that all bona fide news organizations and educational institutions should be authorized to utilize the programming material. Political or commercial use of the material should be prohibited.

12. The Committee recommends that tapes of webcasts and cablecasts not be deemed the official record of proceedings of the House of Representatives.
13. The Committee recommends that the Speaker of the House of Representatives reestablish the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions for the 2009-2010 biennium, and that the Committee continue to review aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings of the House of Representatives.

Report: Findings and Recommendations

House Select Committee on Televising
House Sessions

Findings:

1. Forty-three state legislatures have webcasts of some sort – either video or audio, or both; thirty-two of these states webcast video coverage of the legislature.
2. Twenty-eight state legislatures have some form of over-the-air broadcasting of television coverage of the legislature.
3. North Carolina currently webcasts audio coverage of House and Senate floor sessions, and of meetings in the Finance and Appropriations Committee Rooms.

Findings:

4. State government in North Carolina should be as open and as transparent as possible. Citizens should be able to see and understand how their government and their elected representatives work for them.
5. A video webcast and/or cablecast of the North Carolina House of Representatives would serve the public's interest by giving people throughout the state greater access and understanding of their State government and enabling them to watch their representatives at work

Findings:

6. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would be a step forward towards increasing openness and accountability of State government.
7. Video webcasting and/or cablecasting sessions of the North Carolina House of Representatives would contribute to a better-informed electorate and lead to greater public awareness of issues vital to the State.

Recommendations:

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2. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives offer live, video coverage of selected committee meetings – including the Finance and Appropriations Committees.

Recommendations:

3. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives begin by providing video coverage of its sessions using video streaming technology, so that citizens can tune in using a personal computer.
4. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives work with the cable industry and UNC-TV to expand video coverage by providing for the statewide distribution of cablecasts of legislative sessions and committee meetings.

Recommendations:

5. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives provide for the purchase and installation of the required wiring and equipment for the production of broadcast-quality video coverage of the House and its committees.
6. The Committee recommends that all video programming be produced and created by the North Carolina House of Representatives and its employees.

Recommendations:

7. The Information Services Division of the North Carolina General Assembly should be responsible for the acquisition, installation and maintenance of equipment for video broadcasts of the House of Representatives and for the continued development and operation of video broadcasts, including the hiring of necessary personnel.
8. The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives utilize the Agency for Public Telecommunications for distribution of cablecast programming coverage of the North Carolina House of Representatives.

Recommendations:

9. The Committee recommends that that the House of Representatives establish policies governing its webcast/cablecast program and that the content, selection, and editorial policies governing the program be administered by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee.
10. The Committee recommends that video coverage of the House of Representatives provide a complete unedited transmission of what is said on the floor of the House or in its committees, and be free from commentary. The House of Representatives should provide video programming that is fair, accurate, balanced and without regard to partisanship or ideology.

Recommendations:

11. The Committee recommends that all bona fide news organizations and educational institutions should be authorized to utilize the programming material. Political or commercial use of the material should be prohibited.
12. The Committee recommends that tapes of webcasts and cablecasts not be deemed the official record of proceedings of the House of Representatives.



House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

AGENDA

December 1, 2008
Room 1228, Legislative Building
10:00 AM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair

Introduction of Committee Members

Adoption of Minutes – November 12, 2008 Meeting

Review of Committee Report

Committee Discussion

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Future Meetings/Instructions to Staff

Adjournment

MINUTES
House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions
November 12, 2008, 10:00 A.M.
Room 1228, Legislative Building
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman, called to order the third meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, November 12, 2008. The following Representatives were present: Linda Coleman, Margaret Dickson, Ric Killian, Grier Martin, Mitchell Setzer, and Thom Tillis. Also, in attendance was Advisory Member Denise Weeks.

The Chair recognized Sergeant-At Arms Marvin Lee, Reggie Sills, and Dusty Rhodes.

The Agenda for the meeting is attached as Exhibit A, and Visitor Registration Sheets is attached as Exhibit B.

The Chair said staff will give the committee a comprehensive review of options for Governance and Distribution/Estimated Costs. Then the committee will hear presentation from Mr. Brad Phillips, President with NC Cable Telecommunications Association and Vice President of Government Public Affairs with Time Warner Cable. Mr. Tom Howe Director and General Manager with UNC-TV is present today. If time permits, the committee may have an opportunity to hear from him. Also, Ms. Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director, NC Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT) is in attendance today.

Ms. Heather Fennell and Mr. Peter Capriglione from staff will have a presentation for the committee. Ms. Funnell will discuss options and Mr. Capriglione will talk about cost.

There will be a committee discussion and policy decisions at the end of the today's meeting which will focus on the big picture decisions.

Ms. Fennell began her presentation by saying "The committee is charged with studying the feasibility, cost, and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions of the House of Representatives." The reason for reviewing the charge is because this will inform the committee why staff came up with these 4 options. These options are about web casting floor sessions; web casting floor and committee meetings, web casting and broadcasting floor sessions, and web casting and broadcasting floor sessions and committee meetings. First, some notes about web casting, which will take about 6 months to begin. This includes installing the fibers and making necessary

preparations. Most of this cannot be done during session, as it involves drilling, meaning 6 months out of session to get ready for web casting. Many states that have started televising recently started with web casting. (1) It gives them a place to start. (2) The experience they had from web casting was positive and it emulated a lot of the fears and concerns people had about televising session--for example, grandstanding and record issues. In the information Peter is going to give you, web casting numbers assumed that television will happen eventually. If the committee decides to just web cast, the television cameras that would be installed in the building would be broadcast quality. Not assuming the committee would do just web casting, and would never go on to televise. That would leave the option open that if the General Assembly only went to web cast at this time, in 5 years, if there is more money or more interest, the legislature could also televise. These big policy decisions that need to be made if the General Assembly is going to go into web casting; the committee needs to talk about governments the policies, and the production. **First, Government.** Who would set the policy and procedures for the broadcast—leadership--the Rules Committee? Or, will there be a new committee to set the rules? This is done differently in different states. Minnesota is done by the leadership of the Senate. Pennsylvania sets the rules by the Committee on Management Operations. Not all states decide the same leadership on both sides. Pennsylvania's Senate is decided by committee but, on the House side, the Speaker of the House sets the policy. The committee recommends policies; writes a resolution, and the entire chamber has to adopt the resolution. So the policy's set by the committee; however, it is adopted by the chamber. Other states do set policy through committee. For example, Texas policies go through their House and Administration Committee. What kinds of policy are we talking about? There are many different policies that you can consider. For example, you need to decide who is going to be shown during a telecast? Are the people only going to be shown when speaking? Will the Speaker be shown during roll call votes? In the enclosed packet there are 2 resolutions that is marked Exhibit C Options & Next Steps. There is one from Pennsylvania and the other resolution is from Hawaii. These are examples of some of the policies that have been decided by these 2 states. For example, Pennsylvania goes into detail about who can be shown and when. They also talk about the extent of possible footage that should be only on the person speaking during roll call votes. The camera can only focus on the presiding officer or the clerk, and it stipulates the cameras must be turned off during recess. It also talks about how the policies can be changed and adapted and who operates and maintains the equipment. These are the types of policies that need to be enacted for whoever decides who is going to govern and make policy decisions. **Second Producing:** Who is going to actually run the cameras and produce the web casts? You can do that outside of the General Assembly for example the Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT), UNC-TV, or a new agency can be created. For web casting only, this can be accomplished in house through the ISD Division, which will probably be the best decision. If you are talking about web casting and televising, the General Assembly might want to think about a Hybrid. The decision that will be made depends on what the committee thinks would work best for the House. **Thirdly, Broadcasting.** Some things to consider, when talking about broadcasting on television, the policy decisions that are being discussed as far as web casting, can be carried through for television. It is not like you are going to make completely new policies. However, there are some additional

policy considerations that need to be made--for example, programming and distribution. The implementation time takes longer than in the past. Other states have taken up to a year to get from having a signal to being on television. There are a lot of issues for distribution. Ultimate decisions will be the results of the negotiations with other parties. Broadcasting is the same as with web casting. It is government—who is going to make the decisions. We assume it will be the same individuals that are making the policy decisions as regards to web cast. However, there are new policies to be made. For example, programming—when you distribute a television signal you can't just distribute the signal whenever you are on the air. It is unlike web casting. When you do web casting, the signal can be up when the house is in session. When the House is out of session, you don't have to fill that air. If you do decide to distribute committee meetings, you can broadcast 2 committees at one time for web casting. However, on television you have to decide if it is going wide or is it going to be recorded. **Finally Distribution:** How would the committee like to start distributing signals? Basically, what is going to be broadcast, when it is going to be broadcast, and what additional programming will be aired. In Hawaii's Resolution no. 105 per attached Exhibit marked D, it discusses what shall we broadcast and when. It goes into a detailed analysis of what would be considered newsworthy. Some of the states have broad mission statements. The mission statement for the Illinois channel is also similar to the Ohio channel. It is a broad policy statement about who they would like to have broadcast. Also, included is a handout, which is attached as Exhibit E, Examples of Programming Policies Michigan, Illinois, and C-Span. These policies are basically stating they want the coverage to be objective and non partisan. If it is outside programming, they want it to be reviewed for its contents prior to broadcasting. These are examples of broadcasting policies on a broader scale. Another consideration is who is going to distribute the broadcast. Assuming the committee, you would have already made the decision about who is producing the web cast; you would assume it is a signal coming out of the General Assembly. That distribution can happen by the same individuals who are producing the broadcast. However, it can also be distributed by another entity. At that point, the committee may want to consider having someone outside the General Assembly for distribution only. This can provide programming that can fill the channel or you may want to produce the programming in house. This is done a variety of ways in other states. Some states do everything in-house. California does their production in house; however, they give the signal to a non profit (California channel) to distribute. Distribution is the biggest problem when televising. Minnesota is the only state that does total televising in house with distribution to their entire state. Most other states really struggle getting coverage across their entire state. There are also problems with broadcasting on PBS, one of the digital channels. There are certain barriers due to lack of necessary channels available. PBS currently has 4 channels and they are utilizing all 4 of these channels. Programming and cost are other factors involved. Minnesota pays for the right to be on PBS, which is not free. In the cost estimate that Peter is going to discuss with the members today, it does not include the cost, as distribution is not determined at this point. However, this is something for the committee to consider when thinking about distribution. Cable is carrying all the 4 digital channels with Time Warner located in the Triangle area. According to the FCC rules, Time Warner only has to carry one digital channel; the others are subject to negotiation. Don't assume if you are on a PBS channel, that you

will also be carried on cable. Public Educational Governmental access channels (PEG) is operated by local government. There are approximately 110 PEG channels in the state that have applied for supplemental funding. There are barriers as to being distributed through PEG channels. PEG channels are by locality. You will have to negotiate carriers with each individual channel. For Example, Florida, Illinois, and Hawaii are distributed through PEG channels. This means the General Assembly would have to negotiate with 110 PEG channels to get coverage across the state. PEG channels determine when your program is aired. Also, there are technological difficulties. Not every PEG channel can accept the signal in the same way. Peg Channels distributes programming for Illinois. During this time, Illinois has only received 27% coverage. Ms. Fennell stated I in conclusion of my presentation, I am going to discuss Video Service Providers. Under the Video Service Competition Act, there are different providers of video service programming—satellite, cable, and maybe in the future, Version and AT&T will come into the field. When talking about distribution of legislative broadcast, the only state that has any satellite coverage is Alaska. North Carolina has satellite and cable coverage which is why we are focusing on cable. Cable has the same barriers that PBS does with limited space. There are 12 states that are on cable. The range of coverage varies. Wisconsin cable coverage is 75%. 99% of cable carriers are in Washington. There is 100% of cable coverage in Rhode Island and Connecticut with individual coverage in Rhode Island of 78%. Attached find Exhibit G, Options and Next Steps, which is an outline of Ms. Fennell's presentation.

The Chair said he skipped one agenda item, The Adoption of Minutes. The minutes of the first meeting are in your package, since you have not had an opportunity to read them, I am not going to call for a motion for approval. Take them and read them. The minutes will be included in our final report, subject to approval at that time.

The Chair requested Mr. Peter Capriglione come forward to discuss with the committee Options and Estimated Costs per attached Exhibit F, Options and Estimated Costs.

At the conclusion of Mr. Capriglione's presentation, Representative Martin asked Peter, what types of updates would these costs include?

Peter said replacing the air condition unit, having lights redesigned in the house, and sound proofing rooms.

Representative Martin said Peter, just to be clear, the cost you just gave us was for option 2.

Peter said that was correct; however, these costs do not include broadcast cost.

Representative Martin asked Peter are these cost in addition to the cost for house chamber.

Peter said option 3 is for TV broadcasting and web streaming. The hardware cost has gone up by \$100,000. This is to amplify the signal to get it to go somewhere. Staff increases have gone up because if we televise broadcasts we will need an engineer. To do that we would need a producer and a director. So, it goes up to about \$ 1.6 M first year cost and with recurring cost of \$770,000. If the General Assembly were to do an additional room for instance Appropriations or Finance, which is \$323,000, the biggest cost we have is the cameras, which are high quality and will position the legislature for high-definition televising in the future. When I factored in image quality, it will certainly not show every freckle on our face, but it wouldn't look like a U2 production. You need hardware to get the web stream out, sound system upgrade in Appropriation and Finance room because of the microphone quality. Also, we may have to sound proof those rooms, plus installation of our cable and electrical. The recurring cost would be about \$45,000. That's for hardware and software. We use 20% of purchase price to determine maintenance charges.

Representative Martin asked Peter what were the additional costs. Did the figures provided for option 2 and 3 include what the legislature needs to do for house chamber?

Peter said that would be just the house chamber. The equipment allows us to add other cameras for streaming and broadcasting. The control equipment, cost is increased enough so the legislature can broadcast a certain number of committee rooms. This does not include the cost of putting on a committee meeting.

Representative Martin said the fee of \$323,000 covers how many committee rooms.

Peter said that would be a per room charge. Depending upon the quality, the biggest cost would be the cameras. For the big rooms, he would recommend the bigger higher quality cameras.

Representative Martin said in addition to the \$1.3 M, which includes the house chamber; every conference room on top of that is going to include an additional fee, approximately \$323,000.

Peter said no, mainly the major rooms. In this room for example you could televise with 2 cameras. But they would not be the high-quality you would be put in the chambers.

Representative Martin said the big committee rooms like Appropriations; \$323,000 fee would be included in that cost.

Peter said yes.

The Chair told Peter he was recommending for the big committee rooms cameras of the same quality would be in the chambers. Peter replied these cameras range

from anywhere to \$60,000 to \$80,000, which wouldn't be that high. Those are the ranges I have. I used high end cost.

Representative Tillis said to Peter if the legislature is going to broadcast, have you accounted for incremental operating cost for the crews.

Peter said he would recommend using robotic cameras. In committee rooms for example, we would probably have only one camera because you would always want to focus on the members. Because of the back and forth movement, and even though recognition takes place, doing camera shots are difficult because of having to go back and forth. The cameras back out and shows everybody unless someone is recognized; the cameras will do the shot. But, then the cameras will go back to the still shot. They would be robotic controlled from the control room. There will not be crews for fixed cameras. The option for other committee rooms in the General Assembly would be to have mobile cameras available.

Peter said the cost also for Appropriations would include having to send it to another control facility. Also, having another monitor allows staff to monitor the facility. If the General Assembly is going to do more than one broadcast, the cost will increase because of needing the monitors and controls for the camera, plus staff.

Representative Tillis said are these just base line prices if the legislature would broadcast on their own versus teaming with other agencies?

Peter said yes. So to conclude, the numbers presented are to produce a high-quality broadcast for the chamber and a committee room. First year cost for web streaming and broadcasting was \$ 1.3 M recurring \$500,000. Distribution cost having 2 areas \$600,000 to \$1 M, which were not included in cost, and hopefully negotiate. If the legislators started immediately with televising, we would look at \$1.6 M with recurring cost of \$700,000 due to staff and additional money for distribution of Finance and Appropriations in the amount of \$330,000 per room. Other committee rooms would be less if you do multiple broadcasts and streaming.

Representative Killian asked Peter when thinking about the options, would option 2 be the same cost if the legislature used the Committee Rooms?

Peter said yes in order to provide quality output.

The Chair requested Mr. Brad Phillips to come forward and address the committee.

Mr. Phillips said the Agency for Public Telecommunications Association (APT) consists of 13 providers across the state. Actually, there are several more than that. There membership includes Time Warner, Charter, Sun Link, and others all the way down to the small cable operators. In fact, during the short session, we had a representative of Red's Cable TV in Pitt County to address an issue that was before the

General Assembly. We enjoy a relationship with 1.9 million customers across the state. I have tried to think about what to call this project. All I can think of is NC-Span. Ms. Fennell did a terrific job in describing the cable; however, it is just a few more points he would like to cover. In talking about the infrastructure, you are talking about 2 buildings. How do you achieve the conductivity between the 2? There is delivery of the signal, the programming itself to a distribution source. It has to leave here and get there. How does it leave this facility? Where does it go? How is it distributed? **The Production**. What happens here when a viewer begins to watch a session? It begins with character generated information, backgrounds; leave ins, and tags at the end of programming. It is more than a flip of a switch. There is a lot of production involved behind this process. The committee has heard a lot about scheduling. I think that is going to be a huge challenge because there are so many different meetings going on simultaneously here at the General Assembly during session. I think that APT certainly has the potential to handle most all of those issues with exception of the infrastructure and delivery of a signal. APT is well known with an excellent reputation for programming. They are already established. There are a few advantages that have not been discussed. One of them being availability to leverage a known infinity. If you want government programming and have cable available, you have got a lot of different channels you can utilize. Not just the news channels and the cable news channels, but you have 3 C-Spans. There is local government programming with PEG channels. A viewer can watch any county commissioner or city council meetings, the larger areas especially. Because it is a known infinity. It is easy to promote them, and easy for cross channel promoting with certain issues before the General Assembly, which is an advantage that has not been discussed so far. Another thing is diversity. Everybody knows how to use their TV. Whether you are young, old, or born in another country, you know how to use the TV. This is actually a big disadvantage to web casting or streaming because not everyone is familiar with the end user device. Other disadvantages are the limited viewer ship related to satellite customers or anyone that is watching TV with rabbit ears. Hopefully, there will be more and more cable customers. Actually TV has a limited viewing audience. If the programming is on cable, cable would not guarantee 100% access. Peg Channels are locally controlled. The legislature, who is in charge of production and scheduling programs, will have to negotiate locally with each one of these municipalities, in order to get time on those PEG channels. We have heard a lot about web casting and why web casting would have an advantage initially over any other type of distribution. It allows you to watch T V live or when it is archived. It allows the most interested parties-- classroom, lobby, or any other interesting programs, to obtain the channel. It provides flexibility with scheduling. For example multiple, if meetings are occurring at the same time, you may not need to see one particular meeting. But, it will provide you with flexibility to see a different meeting. From an economic standpoint, this may not be feasible. There are cable limits for the viewing audiences. Web casting could actually help expand the viewing audience. Peter talked about equipping committee rooms and the chambers in a way that would allow the legislators to grow into full broadcast or cable cast of the program starting with video streaming. That is what I call the ever green approach. You build it initially in a way that when you begin to expand and add on to the existing system, you don't have to trash everything to start over. It just simply grows and grows. I think that is the right approach here. Because whether you are web casting or

cable casting, it is basically the same cameras. APT and other agencies are willing and capable of assisting the General Assembly with this process. The key here more than anything else is web casting does have the potential to reach more viewers. Using the most recent ENC Report (NC Marketing and Communications publication has 15 years of service to government, industry, publications, associations, and non-profits), July 2007 there were 3.4 million households in North Carolina--13 cable garages that I have talked with the cable association, deliver services to 1.9 million cable customers. That is 56% of potential views on cable. According to ENC, there are 2.8 million households with broadband access, having 83% for video stream or web casting.

The Chair said from 56% to 83% is big difference. Looking at the universe if cable is currently available to 56%, what percent is over there? And what percent is satellite.

Mr. Phillips said he did not have those numbers.

Peter told the Chair that satellite has 18% of cable coverage.

Mr. Phillips said he meant by the agnate number there being cable wireless phone and other providers of those broadband services. I am saying that the potential is there web casting versus cable operators providing this. Cable system is considerably greater and cable is very valuable to cable operators. It is valuable to local governments, who have PEG channels, especially valuable to UNC. It is valuable to the people that are providing programming across our state. There is very valuable programming, that we have out there, that providers are clambering to get on our cable systems. We have been protective. Bandwidth is a "find item." All of you have heard from a least 2 difference sports programmers that want to get on cable systems in NC. What's added and were does it go is really going to be a challenge to find the right place for that to happen. Now, that being said I don't want to leave you with any impression that the Cable Association or cable operators in North Carolina are not fully committed to working with this committee to make this endeavor successful. Time Warner Cable will help with the infrastructure needs. There are a lot of other opportunities that will be presented and discussed with Heather and Peter. We have all come to the same conclusion. You walk before you run. You expand. With cable it is going to be very difficult to tell you how many people are watching your programming? That is not the case with web casting. You can tell exactly how many people are watching. You may even want to have a ratings war between committees. He brought some of his colleagues with him to answer questions from the committee today.

Representative Killian said since cable cost was not included in the legislature's cost factor, could you give us the cost for broadcasting to insure the committee could have apples to apples cost.

Mr. Phillips said it would be difficult to determine that answer. Time Warner Cable could probably come up with a ball park amount based on estimate bids to other

programmers. Another factor is that type of agreement needed to be negotiated with each different cable operator.

Representative Tillis asked if it was more difficult obtaining cable operators now than approximately 5 years ago.

Mr. Phillips said there are more technological advances now than it was 5 years ago. But, the basic core challenges are still the same. Remember, I said how the signal gets from here to there. That has still got to be dealt with no matter what technology you use to deliver the signal. Also, the distribution of that signal needs to be considered.

Representative Coleman said in terms of video streaming or web casting, would Internet access be required.

Mr. Phillips said yes.

Representative Coleman said how many Counties in North Carolina is without broadband access.

Mr. Phillips said I think at least a part of every County across has some form of broadband access.

Representative Tillis said there is probably 30 to 40% of the population that would not have high speed access. Either they haven't chosen to take the capability from their cable provider or they do have the opportunity. The potential versus the reality in terms of capacity, PC illiteracy, and true high speed connectivity, the numbers get demised precipitously and are still large.

Mr. Phillips said total distribution is not attainable by 100% of the population by any one single method.

The Chair said at the very first meeting. Getting a signal out of there is not a problem. It's just money. I think that we identified what that money will be. The distribution is going to continue to be a challenge. There are things on the horizon which will affect that. Right now, you get your TV signal from cable, satellite, or over the air. In some households it is a combination of 2 of those. In February of 2009 this will change. People are going to discover that over the air doesn't work as well as it did previously. I suspect that what we are going to see is significant growth in cable customers and satellite. Particularly, cable customers because of the number of channels they provide and households discovering that outside antennas simply aren't given them the kind of reception that they were receiving. It is strong potential that digital cable coverage will grow as people discover that the best way for them to watch digital HD television is cable. This has to be put upon the table as the General Assembly looks at a method of distributing the signal. The biggest challenge is how we get the signal to your house. Now is the time that the committee has a discussion and get some feed back as to which direction to pursue now. Web cast floor session, web cast floor sessions and

committee meetings, web cast and broadcast floor sessions, and web cast and broadcast floor sessions and committee meetings.

Representative Dickson said when Heather and Peter were researching this, did you find other people responding to this are they watching it, are the states pleased with what they are doing, and is this working.

Heather said staff did try to get the numbers on viewer ship. After talking with other states, they did find it is working. When they started web casting, they found there was interest. There is a debate about the level of viewer ship. But, people are very well received in the states that are broadcasting.

Peter said Utah is now upgrading their entire broadcasting facilities to today's technology. Tennessee is upgrading their web. Other states are improving what they have.

Representative Dickson said are they are upgrading their equipment because you are assuming they have had positive feedback.

Heather said she has not found a state with a pilot program that was unsuccessful and did not go forward.

Representative Tillis said I think it is a good idea that the General Assembly get started. Web casting is a good way to start. You can obtain viewer ship through web casting. In thinking through a pilot--Start small but build on it and have a plan that gets to pilot production capability.

Representative Killian said everything he has heard is positive. He thinks the legislature should go all the way with web casting plus broadcasting, because the necessary equipment will already been purchased.

Representative Martin said he doesn't think the General Assembly can afford to go all the way with televising. So citizens can see what is going on in government, the legislature should make sure it is possible for the media to get a direct stream. This will make it is possible the media can put it out to the public however they deem possible.

Representative Dickson said people want open government and she feels the General Assembly needs to provide that as best we can. The General Assembly needs to be mindful of the cost of this procedure. She feels the General Assembly needs to have a web casting program with broadcast capability at a later date. She would love to name the program NC-Span.

Representative Tillis agrees with Representative Killian's suggesting the General Assembly allows the public to view this information before spending the money. Maybe with the help of the media, the General Assembly can do this. If a positive feedback is

received, perhaps the General Assembly could start off with web casting and at a later date go to broadcasting.

Representative Martin said it is important the General Assembly evaluate how to spend tax payer dollars. The General Assembly is showing to our constituents that we are proud of the work we do enough to show it to them. We want them to know it is out there in the open where anyone can see. They will have more confidence in their government. Whether they watch it or not to know that we are opening up government to be informed is secondary. Let's keep that our main concern even ahead of viewer ship numbers.

Representative Coleman said she agrees with much of what is said here with regards to type of broadcast that the General Assembly should be doing. But, she also thinks what will help drive the numbers would be what the viewers would want to see. Is there going to be any attempt to find out what the viewers would like to see in terms of broadcast, whether it is the actual session or the committee meetings.

The Chair said keep in mind if the General Assembly can obtain a dedicated distribution system; there are other programming that we can provide on that dedicated line; besides session committee coverage. I think the committee recommendation should be to have a plan that includes both web casting and broadcasting. But, the General Assembly needs to start web casting first because there are still some distribution issues which needs to be resolved. The good news is every dollar spent getting geared up for web casting can be carried right over into broadcasting. If the General Assembly makes the decision to spend the money for quality cameras needed in the large committee rooms, and in the house chamber, to provide broadcast quality video at a later date, none of the cost will be wasted,. Even if it is available initially, only on the Internet, that would not be money wasted.

Representative Coleman said what is the anticipated impact from web cast to existing programs like Legislative Week in Review.

Mr. Phillips said he wanted to add one thing to Representative Coleman's comment about what the General Assembly has and what would the impact be. What is happening in the news industry right now and we have seen cut backs and lay offs and fewer and fewer reporters that are designated to cover the General Assembly. I would say this would be an outlet for some of those newspapers, broadcast, and cable news operators to gather information without having to have someone on the ground here. That would be a tremendous advantage for the media.

Mr. Tom Howe with UNC-TV said having cameras in this building covering things would be a great benefit to UNC.

Representative Tillis said that legislators are kind of like an airplane pilot. It is hours and hours of boredom punctuated by a few brief moments of terror. When you make the change to broadcast, it will make the legislators do their jobs more effectively.

The web is known for what is called a "publish and subscribe." We need to publish it all. What will be interesting is what people subscribe to. If you publish the agenda and watch the legislator's debate, it will be there for the public. Is it more likely they are going to deal into other things? It is more a matter of having the access to allow it to happen.

Representative Dickson said when the General Assembly makes the jump to broadcasting; I am not convinced that the General Assembly will make that jump; I think that the web casting may be enough for the General Assembly.

The Chair said in Heather's presentation she talked briefly about who should set the policy. Should it be the committee, the rules committee, or the leadership?

Representative Martin said it was interesting to see the example of some states actually putting it into the rules they adopt. I would like to hear the pros and cons of that approach. Con seems to be somewhat inflexible. The General Assembly would be going into a new arena if the committee adopts the rules at the beginning of a biennium.

Ms. Weeks said she thinks that the General Assembly would have to put them into the rules that are adopted. This would be a separate resolution dealing with the rules that were governing what would be televised.

The Chair asked Ms. Weeks what were her thoughts as to how The General Assembly should set the policy.

Ms. Weeks said it should be leadership, the Governor.

Representative Martin said that would seem right as you make the adjustments as you go forward. Does that include leadership making decisions underneath some sort of resolution adopted at the beginning of session?

Ms. Weeks said yes.

Representative Killian said he did not see anyone else who could do this, and I am fearful that it may not be received that way even if it did. I am also concerned with rules in as much as it has to be perceived as non partisan. I think it needs to be a separate controlled thing with a committee even if it is with the Senate.

Representative Martin said it is absolutely imperative to be perceived as non partisan. I do think there are ways to do that when leadership still has some direction in decision making. It may have to be a resolution, which Pennsylvania and Hawaii both have. The advantage of having leadership in charge is not so much they are making decisions about who the cameras point at. But, there are decisions when you need to purchase a substantial piece of new equipment or negotiate an agreement to carry a broadcast signal. They can make those decisions. If an important bill that Democrats want to advance in Appropriations Committee and a bill that Republicans want to

advance in another committee, both at the same time. How do we decide what gets televised. On the web, you can telecast more than one committee at the same time.

Representative Coleman said this should be a House decision. I don't think that the perception of not having bipartisan will be a problem. We have come a long way to try to insure that there is a proceeded notation that we are inclusive with both parties having some role in that and the effort is in place by the minority leader is included in making the decisions regarding the workings of this body. Part of the role of leadership is to make decisions like this. That is one of the reasons we have leadership because they do get to make those decisions and it goes along with that rule.

The Chair said Peter, when we had Steve here from Minnesota, their decisions are controlled by the Senate; but, there is complete autonomy in terms of the actual production. The policy is set by the leadership.

Ms. Weeks said the leadership should be with the Speaker and the Minority Leader.

Representative Tillis said he wanted to make a comment about the gentlemen from Minnesota. First, I think that leadership can be trusted to provide some level of separation so as not to rely on the inherent good nature of the person, who happens to be in power. But some sort of a governing structure that transcends every one of us allowing the autonomy of wherever that person existing in government to know, what you see is what you get. It will be published whether it's a good day or a bad day at the legislature. While the operational decisions clearly need to be dealt with by the leadership and the majority in some cases when it is dealing with the infrastructure. That is the key part in making this a credible outlet that other people may have been abusing.

Representative Killian said I think the comments from Ms. Weeks and Representative Coleman is reflective of the personalities of both majority and minority leadership roles. But, those things change. What we have to do is rely on that structure. For the purpose of appearances, insure that structure constantly is in a special committee with different committee members on both sides. Let this committee be responsible for this. Therefore, leadership does have the role; but it is still a standing committee imposed of equal number of members to vote separate. I think we should always retain the responsibility of leadership. The gentleman from Minnesota was incredibly strong. I think that seeded the whole thing. He had the ability to be involved in politics and the personality to go along with it. The key to everything was his visibility to be independent. I would think that we would need an operations person like him.

The Chair said it certainly possible to have the policy setting in the hands of the majority and the minority leadership. It is not going to be micro managed.

Representative Martin said what we are doing is setting up a system in place starting from the assumption that we don't know who is going to be in charge down the road. Assuming it will survive whatever party is in power. In the case of Hawaii, it is the

Speaker. It would be interesting to talk with Hawaii and see how this process is working for them.

Heather said that it would not be a problem to contact someone in Hawaii to discuss the topic as outlined in the above listed paragraph.

Ms. Weeks said she had a question for Heather. In looking at these 2 resolutions, I see that one was adopted in 2007 and the other was adopted in 2008.

Heather said the only thing in the rules is the government. The resolution is not in the government. But yet, the resolutions reflect the policies that would have to be voted on every 2 years.

Representative Tillis said he thinks Representative Martin's suggestion is a good one, even with the problems of the Resolution.

The Chair said who will produce? This is another question that needs to be discussed. Who will actually produce either streaming or broadcast or the 2? The choices are the House, or an outside agency.

Representative Tillis said that we could utilize ACT, as they already have necessary personnel and equipment in place. He doesn't think that ISD should do the web cast.

The Chair said he had strong feelings about keeping this in House. If the legislature is going to do this, it needs to be under the direct control of the House, and not some outside agency. Since ACT is an agency of the state of North Carolina, we should take advantage of existing facilities. But, in terms of who actually produces this, my strong feeling is it be under the direct control of the House of Representatives.

Representative Martin said he agreed with the Chair at least on what we send out of the House. We need to keep in mind that the House of Representative is completely different from any other state agency. However; he feels that we should allow ACT to produce and send out committee meetings.

Representative Killian said that he is not like The Chair, as he does not have any background in the broadcasting business. He would like for the Chair to explain to the committee his reasons for not wanting the legislature to use ACP.

The Chair said since we are talking about televising or streaming House sessions and House committee work, I believe that this should be under the control of the House leadership. It should not be contracted out to a third party.

Representative Martin said if we have a Democratic Governor with a Republican Speaker, and if you are producing a program that is not liked by the Democratic Governor, then he/she can just pull the plug I don't think this is likely; however, we

have seen stranger things happen in North Carolina and elsewhere. This is the Separation of Power thing that I was talking about earlier. We need to remove the possibility for these 2 branches of government to make decisions on televising.

Representative Tillis said I think Representative Martin makes a great case. The things that should be our priority, if you take a look at a business, there are certain things that are required that you must retain control over. But, it may change over time.

The Chair said what I mean is by core is the actual production of the product.

Representative Tillis said to the Chair, when you say production is that the person making decisions about prime/time or the computer that sends out the signals. Is it both? Or is it just the decision process to produce and prepare content for distribution.

The Chair said probably both. Is there anyone that would like to make a comment before we adjourn?

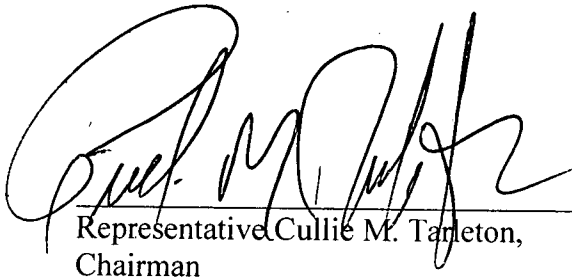
Ivy Hoffman from APT said she wanted to thank the committee for what they you are doing. This was an excellent discussion. We are standing by to help in any way that will benefit the House and the State of North Carolina.

The Chair asked staff if they have enough information to go forward with their research.

The staff responded positively.

The Chair said it is still his intent to beat the December 31, 2008 deadline that the committee has been given. The committee will be having at least 2 more meetings. Hopefully, that will wrap it up. The committee will try to schedule both of those meetings and get this information out as quickly as possible.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at noon.



Representative Cullie M. Tarleton,
Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Neal, Committee
Assistant

Attachments

Exhibit A	Agenda
Exhibit B	Visitor Registration
Exhibit C	Options & Next Steps
Exhibit D	Hawaii Resolution No. HR 105

Exhibit E

Examples of Program Policies Michigan, Illinois,
& C-Span

Exhibit F

Options & Estimated Costs

Exhibit G

Options & Next Steps



House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

AGENDA

November 12, 2008
Room 1228, Legislative Building
10:00 AM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair

Recognition of Committee Members

Adoption of Minutes – October 1, 2008 Meeting

Review of Options for Governance and Distribution/Estimated Costs Committee Staff

PRESENTATION

Brad Phillips - President of NC Cable Telecommunications Association;
Vice President of Government Public Affairs with Time Warner Cable

Committee Discussion

Recognition of Interested Parties/Public Comment

Future Meetings/Instructions to Staff

Adjournment

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 11-12-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Mark Fran	BPMH
LATHAM HAMMON	NCAPT
Bill RANSEY	NCAPT
Amanda Hubbard	NCAPT
Fran Wescott	NCAPT
Bole SWOFF	NCVA Centralina Area Agency on Aging
Wendy Kelly	620 Wickor
Michael Williams	City of Raleigh
John McElroy	Gov. Office
Julia Leggett	The Arc of NC
Jack Stanley	TWC

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 11-12-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME

FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS

CATHY MARTIN	NZGA Legislative Librarian
Robert Sepe	Action Audits
Ben Niolet	N+O
Damon Cirlosta	NC Center For Volun ED
GURNAL SCOTT	WPTF RADIO 3010 HIGNWOODS BLVD RALEIGH, 27604
Brad Phillips	TWC
Mary Tratte	Bodcy Perce
Cam Cooper	B P M LLC
IUN WIKMAN	APT
Randy Fraser	APT -
MARTY BOCCIA	APT

Options and Next Steps

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

Committee Charge

The Committee shall study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives.

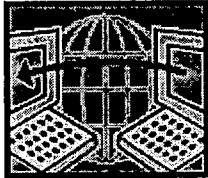
Roadmap

- 1) Options and information
- 2) Cable Association
- 3) Committee discussion and policy decisions.

Coverage Options

- 1) Webcast Floor Sessions
- 2) Webcast Floor Sessions and Committee Meetings
- 3) Webcast and Broadcast Floor Sessions
- 4) Webcast and Broadcast Floor Sessions and Committee Meetings

Webcasting



Webcasting

Policy Decisions

- Governance
- Policies
- Production

Governance

Who will set the policy and procedure for the broadcasts?

Leadership?
 Rules Committee?
 New Committee?

Policy set by leadership

■ Ohio
 SENATE Rule No.: 107 Title: Privileges - Filming or Taping of the Senate
 Text:
 Filming, video taping, or audio taping during the legislative session shall be done under the conditions designated by the President of the Senate. Taping or filming of a member or members of the Senate in the Senate Chamber or in committee rooms when the Senate is not in session is permissible with the prior consent of all members taped or filmed and with the prior notification of the Clerk. Taping or filming of sessions of committees of the Senate is permissible with the prior consent of the Chairperson of the committee involved. Such approved filming or taping may be for specific time periods set by the chairperson, if such taping or filming interferes with the orderly procedure of the hearing.

Policy set by Committee

Pennsylvania
 SENATE Rule No.: XXIII Title: Radio and Television
 1. Filming, videotaping, televising or broadcasting of Senate sessions within the Senate Chamber shall be permitted as provided in policy directives developed and recommended by the Committee on Management Operations. The policy directives recommended by the Committee on Management Operations shall be submitted to the Senate and shall become effective upon the approval of a resolution by the Senate by the vote of a majority of the Senators elected. Filming, videotaping, televising or broadcasting of Senate sessions shall be prohibited prior to the adoption of the policy directives.
 2. Nothing in this Rule shall be construed to prohibit any licensed radio station from broadcasting a session from the Senate or any part thereof provided that the signal originates from the Senate-operated sound system which transmits Senate session activity to the offices in the Main Capitol and environs.

Policies

What policies do you want the producers to follow?

- Only show individual speaking?
- Show reaction shots?
- Will broadcasts be archived?

Who will produce the webcast?

Outside General Assembly?

Within the General Assembly?

Agency for Public Television

House Principal Clerk's Office

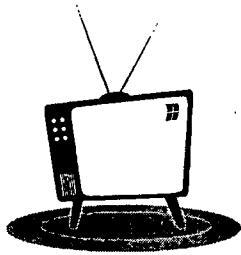
UNC-TV

ISD

New Agency

New Division

Television Broadcast



Television Broadcast

Policies to be decided:

- Governance
- Policies (including programming)
- Distribution

Broadcast policies

What is broadcast?

When is it broadcast?

What additional programming will be aired?

Mission Statement of the Illinois Channel

- 1) To provide citizens with the means to watch their state government at work.
- 2) To provide elected and appointed officials and others who influence public policy with a direct conduit to citizens without filtering their points of view.
- 3) To provide the audience with frequent, unfettered access to elected and appointed officials, governmental bodies, agencies and commissions, and other decision makers.
- 4) To adhere to broadcast production values that accurately convey the business of state government without editing, interpreting, or distorting the proceedings.

Who will distribute the broadcast?	
Outside General Assembly?	Within the General Assembly?
Agency for Public Television	House Principal Clerk's Office
UNC-TV	ISD
New Agency	New Division

Broadcast Distribution
3 main possibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Public Broadcasting Digital Signal ■ Existing PEG channels ■ Video Service Provider Channel

Public Broadcasting
Barriers –
UNC-TV has limited spectrum
Programming – what will be on the air when the legislature is not in session?
Potential Cost

PEG Channels

Public access channels

Educational access channels

Governmental access channels

PEG Channels

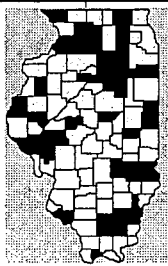
Barriers -
Must negotiate carriage with each individual channel.

Inconsistency with coverage and time of programming.

Technological differences.

Illinois Distribution on PEG

■ Yellow – has channel
■ Blue – requested channel



Video Service Providers

Barriers

Cable has limited space.

Programming – what will be on the air when the legislature is not in session?

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008
STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 105

HOUSE RESOLUTION

*ESTABLISHING POLICIES FOR THE LEGISLATIVE BROADCAST PROGRAM'S
CABLECAST OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.*

WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Legislature, through the passage of Act 331, Session Laws of Hawaii 1989, embarked upon a program to increase public access to and participation in the legislative process through the utilization of new information technologies; and

WHEREAS, increased cable coverage leads to greater public awareness of issues vital to the State and greater participation in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, the legislative broadcast program exists to serve the public's interest through broadcasting proceedings relating to topics that are relevant and newsworthy; and

WHEREAS, through a grant from 'Olelo Community Television, the Legislature started to provide cable television coverage of selected House proceedings in the 1994 legislative session; and

WHEREAS, 'Olelo Community Television continues to provide the Legislature with invaluable technical and engineering support, programming time for cablecasts, broadcast production television equipment and preventive maintenance, repair, and replacement as needed; and

WHEREAS, Act 259, Session Laws of Hawaii 1994, and Act 5, Session Laws of Hawaii, Special Session of 1995, declared the Legislature's commitment to provide greater public access to legislative proceedings via cable television, and provided appropriations to fund the Legislative Access Cable Television Project for the Eighteenth Legislature which has been renewed every session since then; and

WHEREAS, Act 373, Session Laws of Hawaii 1997, codified as

chapter 21G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to public access, established the legislative broadcast program; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature needs to establish policies governing House participation in the legislative broadcast program; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the following policies govern the activities of the legislative broadcast program as it pertains to the House of Representatives:

- (1) Project Responsibility: The content, selection, and editorial policies shall be administered by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee.
'Olelo Community Television shall provide technical and engineering support, programming time for cablecasts, broadcast production television equipment, and preventive maintenance, repair, and replacement as needed;
- (2) Distribution: Cablecast programming coverage and distribution shall be provided by 'Olelo Community Television on O'ahu; by Akaku: Maui Community Television on Maui, Moloka'i, and Lana'i; by Ho'ike: Kaua'i Community Television on Kaua'i; and by Na Leo 'O Hawai'i: Hawai'i Community Television on Hawai'i. All bona fide news organizations and educational institutions shall be authorized to utilize the programming material and shall bear costs associated with such programming. Political or commercial uses of the material are prohibited;
- (3) Programming Content: Programming shall include live and tape-delayed cablecasts. All public committee hearings, legislative sessions, and other legislative proceedings shall be authorized for programming and selected by the Public Access Room Coordinator, based upon the criteria of public interest and newsworthiness, as measured by column-inches in statewide newspapers and minutes of television news coverage. The Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker's designee may authorize special programming in consultation with the House Majority Leader and House Minority Leader. Programming material shall not be used for political or commercial purposes;
- (4) Editing: Cablecasts of legislative proceedings shall be covered gavel-to-gavel, and shall include coverage of the Speaker recognized by the Chair or presiding officer. Occasional shots of the entire committee or assembled body shall be allowed; however, close-up "reaction" shots shall not be permitted; and

- (5) Ownership and Use of Programming: Tapes and cablecasts shall be considered the property of the House of Representatives and the Senate as appropriate. Tapes and cablecasts shall not be considered an official record of the meeting, and there shall be no liability for inadvertent erasure or omission. Tapes of proceedings shall be retained for a period of time necessary for rebroadcasts on neighbor island cable systems, and for use in program evaluation and staff training. Duplication or further distribution of tapes or cablecasts shall not be permitted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the House Majority Leader, the House Minority Leader, the Legislative Broadcast Program Coordinator, 'Olelo Community Television, Akaku: Maui Community Television, Ho'ike: Kaua'i Community Television, Na Leo 'O Hawai'i: Hawai'i Community Television, and Oceanic Time Warner Cable.

OFFERED BY: _____

Examples of Programming Policies Michigan, Illinois, and C-Span

Michigan Government Television (MGTV) Programming Policies

MGTV will use its best efforts:

To provide programming that is fair, accurate, balanced and without regard to partisanship or ideology. MGTV's coverage is intended to offer viewers access to government deliberations. MGTV's segments will be unedited;

To provide programming which will be scheduled by the Executive Director in a manner which recognizes the role of timeliness in the value of information. Programming with content which does not lose value through immediacy may be delayed and replayed on a tape delayed basis;

To provide programming and scheduling of telecasts which will reflect a variety of possible subject matter and deliberating bodies. Balance shall also reflect the importance of covering issues of interest to particular geographic areas;

To keep statistics which insure a reasonable representation of the three branches of Michigan government;

To provide programming and scheduling consistent with MGTV's mission with the understanding that MGTV's resources are limited. The MGTV Board delegates full authority to the Executive Director in making decisions.

C-SPAN's Programming Criteria (non-legislative)

1. The event must be of national interest. It is not just a local event or an event that affects just one part of the country.
2. It must be public policy and not just news. The subject should be timely.
3. There must be federal money involved or federal officials.
4. Coverage must help achieve fairness. The goal is to cover all sides of an issue. Each event does not have to be balanced, but bring to the audience as many views as possible over a course of hours or a course of days.
5. Speaker quality must be high. Is this person an expert on the subject? Does this person have jurisdiction?

Program Policy Guidelines for the Illinois Channel

1. The Illinois Channel should commit to carry live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of floor debate in the Illinois General Assembly whenever it is in session.
2. It should not be predetermined which legislative body will be covered live and which one will be taped. That decision should be left to the channel's producers who will be following legislation and should be trusted to make the editorial decision as to which body should be covered live on a given legislative day.
3. The Illinois Channel should commit to covering all three branches of government.
4. When covering an event, employees of the Illinois Channel should not ask questions or engage in any action that would reflect a bias. The channel's policy should be only to televise the event and to do so with as little intrusion as possible.
5. When covering legislative bodies, the cameras should be directed primarily at the member recognized by the chair or at the chair him/herself.
6. The channel's producers should be allowed the flexibility to rebroadcast a portion of an event or legislative debate.
7. Illinois Channel programming should be committed to reflecting the range of views across the political spectrum. Illinois Channel producers should allow viewers to witness a range of views and form their own opinions. The Illinois Channel should *not* be a statewide public access channel where anyone can demand coverage and get it.
8. The Illinois Channel must be viewed as objective and nonpartisan in its coverage. While that is a fundamental programming approach, following C-SPAN's example, political balance should be achieved in the overall format, not necessarily in every program that airs.
9. The Illinois Channel should be careful in taking in outside programming but consider accepting programs from outside sources. Such programs should first be reviewed for content, quality and suitability before being aired.
10. Because the mission of the Illinois Channel is to create a statewide public affairs channel, programming should reflect events beyond the state capital and beyond official government branches.

House Select Committee on Televising Sessions November 12, 2008

Options and Estimated Costs

Slide 2. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Associated Costs and Pros/Cons
 - Overall costs are dependant upon how you choose to distribute the video signal.
 - No matter the medium, there are invariable costs and requirements that are going to be incurred if and when a decision is made to distribute the video signal.
 - There are pros and cons to all distribution options.

Slide 3. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Invariable Costs and Requirements for Distributing the Video Signal.
 - Costs
 - Robotic Cameras and associated hardware
 - Servers, PCs, disk storage, network requirements
 - Broadcast equipment hardware
 - Audio and video devices
 - Closed captioning
 - Environmental considerations

Slide 4. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Invariable Costs and Requirements for Distributing the Video Signal – Cont.
 - Costs – cont.
 - Installation requirements
 - Staff
 - Space requirements for hardware and staff
 - Requirements
 - Policies and procedures
 - What to broadcast
 - Multiple committee meetings

Slide 5. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Three Distribution Options
 - Web streaming only – no television broadcasting in future.
 - Web streaming to start - television broadcast later.
 - Television broadcast to start – Web streaming will be a complement medium with this decision.

Slide 6. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Option 1 - Web Streaming Only - Pros
 - Costs will not be as high to output quality video.
 - No TV distribution costs.
 - Somewhat less hardware and staffing costs.
 - About 83% of NC households have some type of Internet access.*
 - K-12 public schools will have better connectivity throughout the state by end of 2009.
 - Universities and most community colleges as well as local and state government entities have quality Internet access.

Slide 7. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Option 1 - Web Streaming Only – Pros: Cont.
 - 34 states already do Web streaming of sessions, 22 do committee meetings too.*
 - Anyone in the nation and/or world can view video stream.
 - Have the option to archive broadcasts to allow for later viewing. Can make content available for downloading. (podcasting)
 - No broadcast window to tie into.

Slide 8. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Distribution - Web Streaming – Cons
 - Connectivity to NC households is not necessarily good enough to receive a video stream.
 - There are citizens who do not have Internet access.
 - By choice
 - Because of cost
 - Lack of access in area

Slide 9. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

■ **Option 2 - Web Streaming to Start - Television Broadcast Later -**

Pros

- Same pros as Web only - option 1.
- Waiting to televise will allow us to gauge viewer ship.
- Will allow time to form partnerships and to negotiate broadcast agreements.

Slide 10. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

■ **Option 2 - Web Streaming to Start - Television Broadcast Later -**

Pros: Cont.

- Television broadcast will increase coverage.
 - Provide to households without Internet access.
 - Provide pool feed for press.
- Purchase hardware to allow for future television broadcast.
- Broadcast image will be of a higher quality.
- This is the path some states have followed.

Slide 11. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

■ **Option 2 - Web Streaming to Start - Television Broadcast Later -**

Cons

- Same cons as Web only - option 1.
- Somewhat higher costs for hardware and staff.
- May be significant cost for TV/Cable distribution.
- To begin with, will not reach all of potential viewers with Web streaming only.

Slide 12. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

■ **Option 3 - Television Broadcast to Start - Web Streaming will Complement - Pros**

- Same pros as Web first and televise later - option 2.
- Same pros as Web only - option 1.

Slide 13. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- **Option 3 - Television Broadcast to Start – Web Streaming will Complement - Cons**
 - Will need to begin discussions to form partnership and to negotiate distribution agreements.
 - Must have distribution agreements in place before any work can begin.
 - Same cons as Web only – option 1.

Slide 14. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- **Costs Estimates Were Determined by:**
 - Information from Minnesota and Illinois* document.
 - APT cost estimates
 - Research
 - Speaking to experts in the industry.
 - Gathering knowledge through Web sites that sell required equipment.
 - Ball part quote from a couple of vendors.

Slide 15. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Cost Estimates have ranged from \$250,000 to \$2,000,000.
- Costs will be incurred no matter what the broadcast medium.
- Costs will depend on vendor selection.
- Cost will depend on quality of equipment.

Slide 16. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- The cost estimates presented today will provide for the ability to provide a high quality image for Web streaming.
- This will allow for chamber streaming with TV broadcast in the future with the addition of some equipment and staff.
- This will enable, in the future, for TV/news organizations to take our feed to be used for their own production needs.
- With additional equipment purchases, more than one event can be streamed simultaneously and one event can be broadcasted for TV.

Slide 17. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Hardware cost to provide high image quality for Web streaming and to meet future TV broadcast needs.
- Hardware Costs.
 - \$815,000
- Recurring costs – staff, internet connection, maintenance, closed captioning
 - \$500,000
- Total first year cost – **\$1,315,000**

Slide 18. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Hardware and staffing costs to provide high image quality for TV broadcast needs and for Web streaming.
- Hardware cost TV broadcast needs.
 - \$915,000
- Recurring costs – staff, internet connection, maintenance, closed captioning
 - \$771,000
- Total first year cost – **\$1,686,000**

Slide 19. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

- Additional Meeting Room Costs
 - Room hardware (Appropriations, Finance) – Cameras, control room equipment
 - \$215,000
 - Web streaming hardware, software distribution
 - \$8,000
 - Sound system upgrade
 - \$50,000
 - Sound proofing of room may be required.
 - \$25,000
 - Installation – Fiber, electrical
 - \$25,000
- Total first year cost – **\$323,000**
- Recurring costs – equipment and software maintenance
 - \$45,000 (20% of purchase price)

Slide 20. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

In Conclusion

- **Cost estimates to provide a quality broadcast image for House Chamber**
 - **Web streaming and to allow for future TV broadcasting**
 - First year cost - \$1,315,000 & Recurring cost - \$500,000
 - Distribution costs - \$600,000 to \$1,000,000 per year.
 - **Immediate TV broadcasting and Web Streaming**
 - Total first year cost - \$1,686,000 & Recurring costs - \$771,000
 - Distribution costs - \$600,000 to \$1,000,000 per year.
 - **Addition of Appropriations and/or Finance (per room Charge)**
 - Total first year cost - \$333,000 & Recurring costs - equipment maintenance - \$45,000 (20% of purchase price)

Slide 21. House Select Committee on Televising Sessions

November 12, 2008

Questions?

MINUTES
House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions
October 21, 2008, 10:00 A.M.
Room 1425, Legislative Building
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman, called to order the second meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, October 21, 2008. The following Representatives were present: Ric Killian, Grier Martin, Mitchell Setzer, and Thom Tillis. Also in attendance was Advisory Member Denise Weeks.

The Chair recognized Sergeant-At-Arms Reggie Sills, John Brandon, Fred Hines, and Frank Prevo.

The Agenda for the Meeting is attached as Exhibit A, and Visitor Registration Listing is attached as Exhibit B.

Chairman Tarleton reported a lot of interest from his constituents with reference to televising house sessions. He stated the committee's goal is to have as much openness in government as possible, with complete and total transparency.

Chairman Tarleton asked for comments from the committee.

Representative Tillis said he had the results of the Elon Poll, which is attached hereto as Exhibit C. Representative Tillis indicated the Poll was very informative as it showed 71% of people were "very interested" to "somewhat interested" in watching State government on television.

Chairman Tarleton requested other comments from members. There being none, Chairman Tarleton stated if time permitted, the committee would hear public comments.

Chairman Tarleton welcomed Mr. Steve Senyk, Director of Media Services with the Minnesota Senate. Minnesota reportedly has one of the best working models on televising State government in the country. Mr. Senyk's department produces for broadcast Senate floor and committee coverage, weekly PBS-distributed public affairs shows, issue segments, historical features, civic education videos, and news pool feeds.

Mr. Senyk's presentation entitled "Senate Media Services" is attached as Exhibit D.

Mr. Senyk said the Minnesota Senate has a variety of things they do. He suggests that we start broadcasting by determining what we want to do. The next step is producing within the appropriated budget. Producing involves decision making. The Minnesota Senate does not do everything gavel to gavel, as they are not a 24/7 network. With so many activities occurring, they often toggle between committees. They try to do

as much as possible unedited. He said the MN Senate wanted the Legislators, or actions of the Legislators, to be the stories. When the decision was made to televise, a private, non-profit organization was developed to keep it separate and to make it autonomous. However, it is especially important that this private, non-profit group have trust and respect for the Legislative institution. The MN Senate decided it would be best to leave the production to one trusted executive to make decisions as to what will be televised on a daily basis. He recommended selecting someone who knows as much about the institution as about televising, which will help in making sure they keep the heart of the institution when decisions are made. The Minnesota Senate is an organization that delivers programming through partnership working through several outlets, for example PBS, MN Public Television, and Greater MN Cable Association. The MN Senate legislature is currently undergoing a process to change to an IP system. They worked with the MN Department of Administration to keep the legislative data network separate from video to prevent slowing both systems down. The MN Senate began televising in 1985 with a budget of \$500,000 showing a capital investment of \$3 million over 17 years, which equals approximately \$265,000 annually. Today their operating cost is \$1.5 million, which includes distribution. Public television does not broadcast for free. The MN Senate pays for this service, as it is a partnership. Public television does not offer this service for free, as it displaces their ability to increase revenue. In on recent year, the MN Senate negotiated \$600,000 for broadcasting fees. In 2008 they had coverage in 8,500 to 12,000 homes; previous year was 4,000 to 6,000 peaking at 8,000. During primetime in the late 90s, they televised a controversial issue. Their ratings that night was larger than, a few networks (CNN, MSNBC, and Fox), which proves that government demand is topic driven. They do pool feed wherein they can get information to millions of people immediately. Live web cast is another feature they process, which showed 4,000 to 6,000 live hits as compared to 12,000 archived. There are 20 states now that have some type of web casting and/or broadcasting with very terrific models. He suggested that the members invite other states to demonstrate their equipment to the committee. Time Warner has a lot more capacity available now. Mr. Senyk ended his presentation requesting questions from the committee.

Representative Martin asked comparison of viewers they have from web casting versus broadcasting.

Mr. Senyk said they have never done a cumulative total. But, he guessed it would be broadcasting. He said live broadcast is generally what a viewer wants to see, not web casting.

Representative Martin asked if a viewer could switch between a live broadcast and a recorded web cast.

Mr. Senyk said you could switch between the two on a very limited basis. However, you can switch between two live broadcasts, for example, from the House versus the Senate.

Chairman Tarleton recognized Representative Tillis who asked Mr. Senyk when MN started their program.

Mr. Senyk said the program was started in 1985. However, they did not start televising until 1988. Over the air broadcasting, began in 1996.

Representative Tillis asked what problems or challenges did the MN Senate confront between 1985 and 1988--was it administrative or political.

Mr. Senyk said he had one incident involving a newly elected Senate Majority Leader requesting the Senate broadcast a partisan program upsetting the Democrats. Mr. Senyk told the Senate Majority Leader the Senate cannot produce partisan programs, as this would cause them to lose all creditability.

Representative Tillis asked how the MN Senate ranks with programming in terms of size of government.

Mr. Senyk said that in 2007, they televised coverage of limited state departments to 5 to 6 million viewers. Consequently, their Operations Center received \$1 million. One thing to keep in mind is television equipment last for approximately 10 to 12 years, which has a longer life span than computer equipment.

Chairman Tarleton stated Mr. Senyk said in 1985 they originally spent \$500,000. Acknowledging that prices have gone up considerably, Senyk was asked what \$500,000 allowed him to purchase in the way of equipment.

Mr. Senyk responded that they built a studio for interviewing and purchased portable cameras, plus switchers.

Chairman Tarleton asked of the \$3 million in capital, how much was spent at one time for upgrading.

Mr. Senyk said the Senate purchased 16 robotic cameras, plus switcher, which cost approximately \$1 million.

Chairman Tarleton asked about the number of persons presently employed by the MN Senate Media Services.

Mr. Senyk indicated there are 6 permanent key employees in television, plus 3 part time employees during session. According to Senyk, hiring full time key people with the knowledge to be able to operate quickly when Legislators go back into session is vital. In order to build internal respect for the government institution, Senyk advised having a permanent producer and director with enough in depth knowledge to be able to televise; thereby, giving the Legislators the respect they deserve.

Representative Killian asked Mr. Senyk if, when implementing a program, it is best to build all at once or do it in tiers, specifically web cast and then broadcast.

Mr. Senyk said his state built it in tiers. Some states start with an experimental coverage of a committee or floor debate, trying different things to see if they work. But today, C-Span, which is the greatest Model of all, has set a standard for programming for all of us to achieve.

Representative Killian asked how a broadcast program is set-up in a non partisan way.

Mr. Senyk said that the Secretary of the Senate usually manages non partisan divisions of the Senate. There are Legislators that want things done in ways that are advantageous for them. Senyk's office has contracts with distributors, like Public Service and cable companies, to have at least 3 people approve all decisions. In some cases, the Legislators or Senate Majority Leader will put pressure on him to televise partisan programs. What he does is indicate to the requestor that he will have to check with the other 2 people listed on the contract. He suggested the House have contracts to help maintain the non partisan programming.

Chairman Tarleton said the MN Secretary of the Senate would be the equivalent to the Principal Clerk for the NC House of Representatives, which is Ms. Denise Weeks.

Representative Martin asked if MN Senate had closed captioning for their programming.

Mr. Senyk said they do, as it is an FCC requirement, except for web casting. He indicated that closed captioning is very expensive.

Ms. Denise Weeks told Mr. Senyk that sometimes the N.C. House is in session late at night. She asked him if they had late night sessions; and if so, do they televise these as well.

Mr. Senyk said yes, they do televise sessions held at night.

Chairman Tarleton thanked Mr. Senyk for traveling to North Carolina and speaking to members of the committee.

Chairman Tarleton introduced Mr. Tom Howe, Director and General Manager of UNC-TV.

Mr. Howe came forward and thanked the Chairman and committee members for inviting him to speak today, and for their support of UNC-TV. He said he thinks UNC-TV is an excellent private public partnership. Approximately one half of their budget is provided to them by the General Assembly and the other half is raised by a variety of other means. He said UNC-TV has televised the General Assembly for several decades, integrating legislative coverage with Public Affairs programming. Their Public TV programming represents an investment of about \$2 million per year and \$4 million in spending for all of their other programs. Out of all the program issues in NC, the public wants to see the General Assembly more than other issues which is difficult, as it is very expensive. When the General Assembly is in session, UNC-TV produces a weekly one hour program requiring a significant commitment from their camera operators, writers, associate producers, producers, and reporters. UNC-TV is always trying to balance this investment. They get support from the General Assembly for that. Overall, this is about 50% state funding. The cost of coverage of public affairs is about 28% state funded. They have made the case in the last two legislative sessions encouraging the Legislators to increase state funding for Public Affairs. The cost of PBS is continuously increasing. The General Assembly pays PBS almost \$4 million per year. Mr. Howe indicates that providing greater access to the public is good public policy. The question is the matter of the investment. He believes, if you do appropriate money for greater legislative coverage, the best recipient of that money is Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT). He feels that way for a variety of reasons. They were designated by state statute to be the video arm of government. That is their legislative roll by statute. He thinks that the kind of coverage that will come out of the sessions from both Senate and the House and committee meetings, which is direct feed, is a more appropriate roll for APT to play. When UNC-TV is at the legislature, they are here as journalists in an independent way. Howe thinks it is important for the public to recognize that UNC-TV is playing a different roll. As a member of the university staff, he designated to support university priorities; however, the university priorities have not been established for this year. Howe indicated he could not take a public position supporting appropriations for televising House sessions, except to say that he thinks it is good public policy and that he is really glad this committee is investing time in this, as it is very important. Obviously, the difficulties the legislature will have at this time looks like money is going to be very short this year.

Chairman Tarleton asked, when the digital TV conversion occurs in February of 2009, what are UNC-TV's plans in terms of how many channels UNC will propose to program in standard definition and high-definition?

Mr. Howe said that in terms of coverage from the General Assembly, he thinks the most appropriate outlet is the web and cable access channels. He explained there is a very confusing and difficult situation related to carriage of UNC-TV and different providers. With the bandwidth that they have, UNC-TV will be providing one high-definition television channel and two SD channels. High-definition television, a kid's channel, and additional channel which will provide primarily programming about North Carolina, as well as other programs. This is a dramatic change than when digital came out almost 10 years ago. Originally, they thought they would be able to do port of speeds in an HD. What they found with the plan was to do 4 standard definition channels in the daytime, a high-definition channel, and 1 SD at night. Also, when they switched back and forth, the boxes would drop the programming of that channel. So people would have to reprogram the boxes. The original concept of carrying different programming in the daytime than at primetime became not doable. Now all they have is 3 channels. There is a tremendous demand for programming on those channels. If they were to carry live feed from this building on broadcast, it would tremendously limit what they could do in terms of other Public Services with programming. UNC-TV is deeply committed to the children's channels, and to providing programming that is informative and enriching in something of alternative commercial television to adults who are home during the daytime. That is one of the dreams of digital because they have always been confined trying to provide programming for children and programming for adults during the daytime. The situation is different for cable. Howe indicated that Time Warner cable carries 5 channels from UNC-TV--one high-definition channel and 4 SDs. Certainly it is possible that one of those cable channels could be devoted for feed from the legislative building. People get used to watching a certain type of program, then when you take the program away to put in a feed from the General Assembly, it will not make you very popular. For consistency, Howe thinks a web feed and a feed on cable access channel is the best concept for feeds in the legislative building. Satellite is a totally different situation, as it carries just one channel from UNC-TV. The most they have on satellite is two channels, which is about 18% of the state. Howe thinks it would be really important if this happens, as it would be consistent and available in one place. Thereby people can always know where they can locate NC General Assembly programming.

Chairman Tarleton said one of channels that Time Warner is currently carrying is 5 UNC channels. One of these is UNC 4 channels and one is your high-definition channel, with one being a kids' channel. If one of those channels that Time Warner is currently carrying became exclusively devoted to legislative coverage, would that be possible.

Mr. Howe said yes.

Chairman Tarleton asked for questions from the committee.

Representative Martin said the MN Senate programming is like UNC-TV, and asked if there is any synergy between what the committee may accomplish with the coverage that UNC-TV is already televising.

Mr. Howe responded that if the General Assembly would fund this and APT could televise, it would be a tremendous asset for UNC in the production of their weekly

shows. For example, if APT is doing a feed from the Senate to House floor, UNC doesn't have to be there with their cameras. If APT is providing a feed from a committee meeting, UNC can get a feed. Personally, Mr. Howe thinks APT or whoever the source is, should be available to everybody in the state. If someone wants to see a news channel in Raleigh, Greensboro, or Charlotte, anybody can take it up to use it to provide coverage. This would be a great benefit and a tremendous relief because this is a big building consisting of 2 chambers. It is very difficult for UNC to cover everything they are want to cover..

Chairman Tarleton thanked Mr. Howe for his time providing this information.

Since Mr. Howe has already laid the ground work for NC Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT), Chairman Tarleton changed the agenda. Ms. Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director gave her presentation to the committee.

Ms. Hoffman's presentation is titled Topics to address for 10-21 Meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions attached as Exhibit E. Ms. Hoffman ended her presentation and asked for questions.

Representative Tillis said out of all the states that have legislative coverage, how many of them have an organization responsible for this equivalent to the Department of Administration.

Ms. Hoffman said she did not know. However, Committee Co-Counsel Heather Fennell has been doing a lot of research on this issue.

Ms. Fennell said there are very few states in the nation that have an organization like APT. In fact, to the best of her knowledge there is one state, which is Florida. A representative from Florida is coming to North Carolina at the end of November to speak with another committee. They want to know what we do as a State government agency to provide communication services to other agencies, which is the part of all models that they want to emulate.

Representative Tillis noted that APT indicated that within 9 to 12 Months they could acquire equipment and supplies to get things ready. He asked what would that cost be and what service would be provided for this investment.

Ms. Hoffman said about \$700,000 for an equipment package, APT would put cameras in the chambers, Appropriations and Finance Committee Rooms, and in 3 additional committee rooms on the 1st floor, along with a roll around cart. The equipment APT would need to take those signals across the street to their facility to package them and put on the graphics to stream or distribute. Ms. Hoffman said she would need a staff of 19 people at an annual cost of \$1 million to provide the production, assistance, and producer at a high level of activity with a significant kind of engineering. This would allow APT to do 4 rooms. Packaging something could go out live, others could be web streamed and possibly held for later airing. APT is working on the number for the ongoing operating cost, plus we have a computer that gives us information of any additional cost. The distribution is the key. If APT goes 24/7 via satellite, it is much different than other methods.

Representative Tillis questioned whether Ms. Hoffman had said it would cost \$700,000 for that equipment and about a \$1 million annually for the staff.

Ms. Hoffman said yes.

Chairman Tarleton asked if APT's shows; including their call in show that is run on access channels around the state, carry the programming live simultaneously?

Ms. Hoffman said no. Most of the coverage is live; however, there are some communities which don't have the capability to pick up their signal live.

Chairman Tarleton asked, looking at the coverage that APT gets with that model, what percentage of the households in North Carolina have access the programs.

Ms. Hoffman said the way they do the calculation, they figure 65% of North Carolina households receive cable television. APT probably reaches about 85% of that, which is 4 to 5 million. But, of course programs on the web can go global.

Chairman Tarleton questioned the amount of employees totaling 19.

Ms. Hoffman said in order to run 24/7, the agency would include 3 engineers and 4 producers for each room. If they do 4 simultaneous feeds, they can cut that back, then cut back staff. Also, the agency can build up to this amount.

Chairman Tarleton thanked Ms. Hoffman for her comments. This agency is a resource that we are lucky to have in North Carolina. APT has done a wonderful job in North Carolina for a number of years. He introduced Mr. Randy Fraser, who is the Chairman of the Board for APT.

Chairman Tarleton asked for questions from the committee. There being no further questions, the chair welcomed Mr. Mike Williams, Cable Administrator with Raleigh Television Network (RTN). Chairman Tarleton said that he was sure some of the members have seen this network and the coverage it provides. Some of the members may have heard references to Public Education Government (PEG) channels. Mr. Williams has a background in commercial broadcasting. The chair requested that Mr. Williams come forward and address the committee.

Mr. Williams thanked the Chair and the committee for allowing him to speak and for being a sponsor to the operation of a service that provides coverage of government meetings. Mr. Williams said he thinks televising house sessions is an outstanding idea. He works for the City of Raleigh and reports to the Public Affairs Director. RTN (channel 11) is a 4 channel local public education government programming operation. RTN programs 3 of the channels. One of the channels is programmed with a cooperative through a contractual arrangement. The channels are made available to RTN through a franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable. Their programming is made available to most of the residence of Wake County. Also, they are a facilitator for Wake County. They cover council and commission meetings televised through their facility. Channel 11 is carried throughout the county to sublet to municipalities. Williams indicated that in the early days of RTN's production, he was told the programming was "not interesting" to "a little boring".

Mr. Williams said after C-Span launched, one of their customers said he thought their program was the most interesting boring program he has ever seen. Williams indicated that one day it will be what viewers are saying about coverage of the House. He said RTN began in 1983. RTN is different from most local programming operations of PEG channels. RTN programs 3 separate channels, two public access channels and one government channel. When the General Assembly begins televising, it will take between 6 to 18 months to go live, depending on the complexity. This is considered a reasonable time frame. When RTN launched, it had obsolete equipment. They upgraded the equipment about 4 years ago at a cost of a little over \$1 million to provide acceptable quality. RTN has remote control cameras in council chambers operated by one person, and it has upgraded their studio on Martin Street. Committee members were invited to

visit RTN operations. Williams indicated that RTN also has a remote van used when doing coverage of live events. One of the events they do fairly regularly is the city council and county commissioners meeting at joint sessions. These sessions were held very often during the week of the Raleigh Convention Center opening. RTN provides a lot of different programming. Its goal or charter is to provide information about what's happening within the city. RTN does programs about capital projects, for example downtown development. One of the problems they have experienced was the PA system was not sufficient when launching. The PA system has now been upgraded 3 times. When televising the legislative building, the lighting will be a problem. The lighting will have to be designed for the rooms. The control room will have to upgrade the air conditioning system. Williams found that interest in having different things televised is much higher than originally thought. The NC Department of Revenue just did a survey of government channels, which total 102 local government access channels up and operating now. RTN has gone all digital, both computer and software driven. They have a studio with 3 cameras installed, plus the capability of increasing that amount. They have 12 portable cameras. The staff consists of 9 people producing programming and providing training for community users. The primary focus is on the production and operation of government access channel. Mr. Williams had handouts he passed out to Members, which are attached hereto as Exhibit F, showing the 4 channels that Raleigh Television operates, and Exhibit G entitled RTN 11 Programming Schedule for Monday, October 20, 2008. RTN does have one engineer on staff and they are in the process of trying to identify a second. It is essential that a network have sufficient technical staff needed to continue operating. RTN does web cast and stream constantly. Channel 11 broadcast the government channel live as well as archiving every program that runs. These archives are indexed allowing quick find. RTN do not have closed captioning. There is not a mandate to use this function for local access channels. In fact, they are specifically exempted. It is something that RTN is considering in the budget for next year because it is an excellent service. One of the problems with screening is the quality is not as good as with a full channel. It seems to be a good supplement to doing full video channels. RTN gets a lot of requests from viewers to improve the quality of archived programs. Primarily they look for results. The City Council has expressed they have received a lot of positive feedback. They have also received community support for bond issues, when RTN has used their facility to promote these bond issues by providing information. More viewers in the community ask important questions and are more aware of community functions. A couple of other communities in Wake County are utilizing one of the channels. Knightdale launched their channel, number 22. Additionally, RTN has more plans for expansion. Viewers do not like watching poor quality programming, along with poor sound. Therefore, RTN replaces the equipment on a regular basis. They really focus on getting government information out to the community, which is their main goal. Mr. Williams completed his presentation and asked for questions from the members.

Representative Killian asked how the network maintains a non partisan nature. How does your structure allow you to insure that this does happen?

Mr. Williams said the city council understands that looking at something from a partisan viewpoint is not beneficial for the broadcast program. They do get requests occasionally for partisan programming. The City Manager and Mr. Williams have veto

power. The stated purpose remains non-partisan. Williams indicated that most every one knows the meaning to be non partisan, which is very basic.

Chairman Tarleton asked for questions from the committee. There being none, he asked Mr. Randy Fraser whether, as franchise agreements come up for renewal, given the legislation that was passed in 2006, we would see the number of access channels across the state decreasing?

Mr. Fraser said he did not know the specific statistics. However, there were a few issues with some initial surveys done through the NC Department of Revenue, about the number of access channels that are remaining. When the initial surveys were completed, the number was estimated at 300, which he thinks was incorrect because some channels were duplicated. But to answer the question, Fraser indicated that the number of access channels have increased in the last couple of years across the state.

Chairman Tarleton said the reason for his question was previously cable companies negotiated franchise agreements with municipalities. Part of the negotiating process involved access channels being negotiated as part of the franchise agreement. When legislation passed in 2006, the cable franchise agreements would now be processed through the Secretary of State's office.

Mr. Tom Howe said yes, Mr. Chairman. Part of the terms of issue was the number of access channels based on the size of the system.

Chairman Tarleton asked if Mr. Howe saw the number of access channels remaining about the same, increasing, or decreasing.

Mr. Howe said total access channels, which are set up by the government; add value to cable companies offerings. Consequently, this aids people's desire to subscribe to cable television service. Public Television Systems do an excellent job with educational access; however, it has not been utilized due to lack of funding. There is a cable station in Chapel Hill that has never been used. Television as it has turned out legislative and governmental body, has a mixed experience with public access to some degree. It encouraged lots of religious programming, which is good. On the other hand in Kansas City when the government couldn't get to choose programming on the basis of content, they shut down the public access channel. According to Howe, for about \$2 million, which UNC-TV is spending in the budget now on access, they could be doing some kind of governmental channel that would be core democratic allowing people to see and hear about public issues. He indicates that if you are doing that, you are going to find that most of the multi-channel distributors will have an appetite for something that is a real good product. It doesn't result in calls when people complain about content.

Chairman Tarleton recognized Mr. John Shaw from the audience, who wished to make a comment.

Mr. Shaw said he was a private citizen from Cary, NC who likes to keep up with what is happening in government, and inflicting his opinion to Representatives about different areas, especially the environment. He tries to watch different committee meetings in person. However, he is unable to attend as often as he would like. He listens to sessions at home through the internet which is great. However, television would be much better. What goes on in the legislature overlaps as the House and Senate are in session at the same time. More than one committee meeting is occurring at the same time. If possible, he would like for the legislature to have archiving--audio and of course video, would be the most ideal.

Chairman Tarleton thanked Mr. Shaw for his comments and recognized Ms. Catharine Rice, Vice President of Citoba, an association of local government cable regulators and the public education and government programmers. The PEG channels are actually surviving. Ironically, since the passage of The Video Famous Competition Act, a lot more interest was generated in the PEG channels. The sad part is the bill ends the local government right to renew. It was because of that renewal process that we were actually able to negotiate funding for the PEG channels. So, that's why the \$2 million is there. It is actually to help support the channels that were already in existence. There is no start up money. The money would have come through that negotiation process. Nevertheless public education and government institutions in local communities are putting together scarce resources to build these channels up. Citoba has counted about 345 channels in communities across the state. Some of these channels are being sent to more than one community. The certification process that Mr. Williams talked about with 102 channels fits the minimum programming response. There are a lot more channels out there.

Chairman Tarleton thanked Ms. Rice and asked members for input and instructions to the staff in preparation for the next meeting.

Representative Tillis noted that the Elon Poll comment was very positive about televising House sessions, indicating that there is a demand as well as significant interest. Where do we go from here? From the last meeting, we talked about different alternatives based on different levels of service. There are some things that State government is doing with respect to open government, including APT's Open Net, and UNC-TV's *Legislative Week in Review*. Tillis suggested that the committee consider in the funding whether the need for a program like *Legislative Week in Review* would continue if the General Assembly were to do its own broadcast coverage or if the legislature might incorporate it into a new program. The Committee should also consider what roll APT may play in televising sessions, if any. It becomes as a question of what's the model. Tillis was considering how the committee might provide a level of service or possibly submit it to the private sector for a bid. He was uncertain whether there are private companies that have the ability to come in and produce broadcast programming for the legislature. He noted that it seems like with some active channels they are all funded and staffed internally within the government agencies. He suggested that the Committee consider the things that the legislature already does and try to work forward from there. The question is hat line of service the General Assembly wants to buy and then what's the best model.

Representative Martin suggested that it would be helpful to have staff present the committee with some options, as the discussion sounds like it is still wide open.

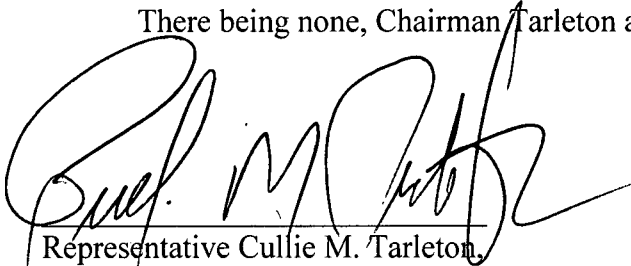
Chairman Tarleton said it is wide open. But, it is becoming more in focus as to what direction the General Assembly should go.

Representative Tillis said NC is one of the fastest growing and most populous states. It seems like the General Assembly is behind and that this is something the legislature should do. A management consultant can answer with 2 or 3 options. To what extent does the General Assembly have some overlap? It would be nice to see how the legislature can consolidate the leverage in some of the capabilities in place today. Tillis stated that he only thing that would make televising fall dead on arrival in the next

legislative session is going to be a physical challenge , and noted that would be nice to lay the ground work and keep a transitional plan.

Chairman Tarleton asked if there were any other comments or questions from the committee.

There being none, Chairman Tarleton adjourned the meeting at 11:55 A.M.



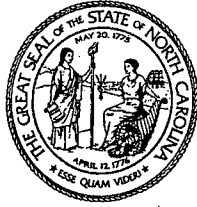
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton,
Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Neal, Committee
Assistant

Attachments:

- A. Agenda
- B. Visitor Registration Sheets
- C. Elon Poll
- D. Senate Media Services
- E. Ms. Hoffman (APT) Topics to address for 10-21 Meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions
- F. Brochure showing the 4 channels Raleigh Television Network (RTN) operates
- G. RTN 11 Programming Schedule for Monday, October 20, 2008.



House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

AGENDA

October 21, 2008
Room 1425, Legislative Building
10:00 AM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair

Introduction of Committee Members

PRESENTATIONS

Steve Senyk
Director of Media Services, Minnesota Senate
St. Paul, Minnesota

Tom Howe
Director and General Manager, UNC-TV

Mike Williams
Cable Administrator, Raleigh Television Network

Ivy Hoffman
Executive Director, N.C. Agency for Public Telecommunications

Committee Discussion

Recognition of Interested Parties/Public Comment

Future Meetings/Instructions to Staff

Adjournment

EXHIBIT A--AGENDA

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 10-21-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Tammy Marten	APT
Amanda Hubbard	APT
Fram Wescott	APT
LATHAM HAMMON	APT
BRI RANSEY	APT
Marion Tatten	Brooks Pierce
Brad Phillips	TWC / NCA/A
Sam McHugh	Loughlin
Julia Leggett	The Arc of NC
Cathryn Rice	ActionAid / SeaTrust
Kevin Leonard	WCSR

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 10-21-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME

FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
STEVE SENYK	MINNESOTA SENATE MEDIA SERVICES
Michael Williams	City of Raleigh, NC
Boothell	NGBA
Dennis McCarty	NCSA
JOHN SHAW	SELF
IUY WOFFMAN	NCAAT
Randy Fraser	NCAAT
TOM HOWE	UNC-TY
Carl Davis	UNC-TD

How interested are you in a television channel that would allow you to watch state government at work?

Very Interested	29%
Somewhat Interested	42%
Not at all Interested	26%
Don't care about it	1.6%
Don't Know	1.5%
Refused	.1%
Total (N=477; +/- 4.58)	100%

Culture Programs (travel and tourism, history, museums, historic sites, state parks)	6%
Economic development (jobs, state incentives)	9%
Education (UNC system, Community Colleges, Elementary and Secondary schools)	9%
Election/Public Affairs programs (Debates, public talks, political experts)	8%
Environmental Programs (conservation issues, reduce/reuse/recycle instructions)	5%
Government proceedings (legislature, press conferences, courts, utilities, committee meetings)	16%
Human services (health care, immunization information, etc.)	6%

(N=339; +/- 5.43, *multiple responses permitted; does not total 100%)

Senate Media Services

Steve Senyk

Director, Minnesota Senate Media Services

Entering 20th year of managing the department

EXHIBIT D—Senate Media Services

Senate Media Services

Nonpartisan public information office of the
Minnesota Senate

Charged with producing television programs,
photographic services and multimedia products to
raise public awareness of the Senate and
legislative activities.

Senate Media Services

Department produces for broadcast

Senate Floor Coverage

Committee Coverage

Press Conference Coverage

Weekly PBS-distributed public affairs show

Issue segments

Historical features

Civic education videos

Broadcast news pool feeds



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Main body of vertical text columns in the center of the page, containing the primary content of the document. The text is extremely faint and illegible.

Vertical text column on the right side of the page, possibly serving as a sidebar or a secondary column of information. The text is illegible.

Senate Media Services

"Producing" means decision making

Events to be covered and length of coverage

Camera angles, reaction shots determined

Graphics to be included

Topics for studio programs

Guests to be invited

Video clips to be used in packaged segments

Senate Media Services

Minnesota Senate Leadership and Secretary of the Senate decided best to leave executive producing decisions with one individual

Secretary of the Senate wanted someone who knew the institution and process, more so than television production

Senate Media Services

Unlike other states, we are not a broadcast or cable network

Deliver Programming through Partnerships

Twin Cities Public Television (community licensed)

Minnesota Public Television Association

Greater MN Cable Stations

State Administration Department for webcasts

Comcast for closed-circuit cable service

Senate Media Services

Department began in 1985 with initial investment around \$500,000

Today, about \$3 million dollars of capital investment into department, but has averaged \$265,000 per year over 17 yrs

Operating costs total about \$1.5 million per year

Senate Media Services

Viewership is topic driven

According to Nielsen, during session 2008, some floor debates reached between 8,500 to 12,000 households.

Previous years sustained 4,000 to 6,000 households throughout the day, with peaks reaching 18,000 households.

Senate Media Services

Provide video pool feeds to broadcast news stations to reach larger audiences

2008 Webcast and Archive Events – In 2008,
46,000 visits for live webcasts
12,000 visits for archived events

Senate Media Services

States have shaped legislative coverage differently, according to best fit for the state

Congress and city councils have opened their chambers to television coverage, and legislatures are following:

Digital Television providing new opportunities

Senate Media Services

Challenges for the future:

- Reduce operating costs through internal partnerships with other Senate departments and House public information departments
- Diversify distribution to adjust to digital age

Topics to address for 10-21 meeting of the House Select
Committee on Televising Sessions

APT, the Agency for Public Telecommunications – created by the legislature 30 years ago, is an agency of the Department of Administration. DOA is considered the business arm of state government, providing services to other state agencies. Our mission -

The agency provides information and media services, policy advice, telecommunications leadership and innovation to agencies of government in order to: improve transparency and access to government proceedings and services; stimulate and increase citizen participation in and interaction with government; and enhance efficiency in North Carolina's government.

We do this in a variety of ways. First, we provide media production services to other government agencies – We produce long and short form audio and video projects (such as the videos used at State Parks welcome centers and 30 second spots promoting fiscal literacy among high school students). We handle media placement (Eat Smart Move More holiday spots reaching the Public Health target audience). We also provide teleconferencing (pandemic flu briefing live from our studio to media across the state, enabling the state health director to make a statement and take questions from reporters statewide). Also, we offer OPEN/net, live call in programs linking citizens with government officials.

It is because of the OPEN/net programs that we are here today. The hallmark of OPEN/net is live, prime time call in, enabling citizens to talk with government officials about the subject of the night. Currently, we are on the air two hours a week on Tuesdays. The staple of our programming for many years, when we were on the air two nights a week, was a combination of the live call in with video tape from some state government meeting.

We would go out in the field and videotape a legislative or executive branch meeting and the air one hour unedited during our evening time slot, followed by a live call in with the principals from the meeting.

Topics include programs about the Seniors Health Insurance Information Program, adoption, a monthly series on education called Parents and Schools, an annual series called NC Works, which this year dealt with workforce issues. We also cover issues like energy. And, of course, we produce many call in programs about legislative initiatives.

In our production facility across the street, we operate a digital television facility, with broadcast quality cameras, switchers, etc. We have the capability to shoot and edit; we have a studio that allows us to produce quality call in programs. We have distribution equipment, enabling us to distribute our programs on the internet and by microwave and fiber to a satellite uplink. We would be honored to tour members of the committee through our facility so you can see the infrastructure already in place.

Since we began OPEN/net in 1984, it has operated as a public private partnership between the state and North Carolina's cable operators. Through our distribution to cable systems across the state, we reach more than 400 communities across the state – reaching about 4 – 5 million citizens. In order to establish that distribution, we worked one on one with the cable community. Sometimes the cable system carries us directly, sometimes we work with a local public or educational group for carriage and sometimes leased access channels carry the programs.

OPEN/net is distributed by analog satellite to local multichannel video distributors statewide. As technology changed, we added additional distribution capability. In 2006, we began live streaming on the internet. In 2008, Time Warner's digital cable Carolina on Demand and the APT web site began storing archives of the live programs.

As a state agency, all of our programs fall under the laws for public records. We make copies for people requesting dubs of programs.

From OPEN/net's beginning in 1984, we have aspired to increase our program service to serve North Carolinians with additional information. As C-SPAN provides federal coverage and the local government channels program city, town and county activities, OPEN/net has as a goal to package and deliver programming about state government.

In 1991, the legislature studied and endorsed a plan to increase the hours of OPEN/net to 45 per week,

although budget constraints did not allow that proposal to move forward.

At its meeting last week, the APT Board endorsed the **goal of creating a full time network covering the legislature (House of Representatives floor and committee coverage, to start) along with executive and judicial activities – to be distributed as widely as possible through television/multichannel video distributors and the web.** Programming would also include video created by other APT sections, outside video providers (such as local government or other state agencies) and call in programs, for example.

We believe that a full time network is doable – with a 9 – 12 month time frame, equipment could be purchased and installed, staff could be hired and trained.

The biggest problem to be solved is the transmission question – how would the programming be delivered.

Although web only programming would be an enhancement to what is currently being done in North Carolina, reaching citizens through their televisions enables the casual channel flipper to find the programming. Web only distribution really demands that citizens search out the opportunities for viewing, which can dilute the effort at transparency.

There are a number of distribution options, but the determination of the most appropriate model will take some serious discussion.

One bit of news that may interest the members of the committee. The Elon Poll is planning on releasing results from a recent poll that found more than 70% of North Carolina residents say they are interested in a television channel dedicated to covering the state legislature. The poll also asked residents what other type of programming they are interested in and the most frequent response was government proceedings, such as the legislature, press conferences, courts, utilities hearings, committee meetings) followed by economic development information and state education information.

If the legislature moves forward with the televising of its proceedings, we want you to know that APT has the resources and knowledge to build the requisite infrastructure, to package both original and acquired programming in a way multichannel distributors expect and a track record of producing compelling, innovative programming about state government for the past 25 years.

I again invite you to see our facilities and stay for a Tuesday evening program. It is very exciting to be behind the scenes of an OPEN/net program.

I am happy to answer any questions.

FIRE WATCH

Mondays, 12:30 p.m.
Fridays, 11:00 a.m.
Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Sundays, 2:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

PARK CONNECTION

Mondays, 9:30 p.m.
Fridays, 11:30 a.m.
Saturdays, 6 p.m.
Sundays, 3:30 p.m. & 9 p.m.

RALEIGH TALKS

Mondays, 10 p.m.
Saturdays, 9:00 p.m.
Sundays, 3:00 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

THE SCHOOL CONNECTION

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.
Fridays, 12:30 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Sundays, 6:30 p.m.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Mondays, 9:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, 11:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.
Fridays, 10:30 a.m.
Sundays, 10:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

WAKEGOV TV

Mondays, 1:30 p.m. & 9 p.m.
Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.
Fridays, 6:30 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.



How To Become A Community Producer

RTN offers adult Raleigh residents complete professional training in all areas of studio and field production, including graphics, lighting, audio, teleprompter and editing. Classes are taught by RTN staff and other industry professionals who are qualified to teach proper production techniques and procedures. RTN production classes are designed to instruct and fully prepare each student to use the new digital production studio and non-linear editing systems with confidence and skill, enabling them to create and produce their own television programs.

If you or your nonprofit group has a message to share with Raleigh, consider the resources RTN has to offer. For more information about becoming a community producer, contact the RTN staff at 831-6278 or visit www.raleighnc.gov/rtn and click on Raleigh Television Network.

Putting Your News on City View

RTN offers City View Calendar, a community bulletin board for local organizations to promote activities and events that are happening in Raleigh and Wake County. City View also provides the latest news and information about City services, municipal meetings and events that are important to you.

To publicize an event:

- email: community.television@ci.raleigh.nc.us
- mail: Raleigh Television Network,
P.O. Box 590, Raleigh, NC 27602
- fax: 919-831-6877

For more information on the Capital City's dedicated information source, visit RTN's offices and studio at 310 W. Martin Street, call 831-6278 or visit www.raleighnc.gov.

Make the most of this information source dedicated to Raleigh – watch and participate!

RTN 10

RTN 11

RALEIGH

TELEVISION

NETWORK

RTN 18

RTN 22

FOCUSED ON RALEIGH

RALEIGH'S INFORMATION RESOURCE: THE RALEIGH TELEVISION NETWORK

Raleigh's information source is the Raleigh Television Network (RTN). This all-digital television network is designed to serve the people of Raleigh. If you want to be thoroughly informed about your -- City and County governments, enjoy community events, inform your neighbors about your nonprofit group or concerns -- RTN has all that you need. RTN provides this vast amount of information and diverse programming via four channels:

10

RTN 10 – COMMUNITY

This channel is Raleigh's mirror on itself. RTN10 programming is produced by citizen producers. The programming runs the entertainment gamut from live informational presentations featuring your friends and neighbors, to local events, to a potpourri of talk shows, to the Classical Arts Showcase.

11

RTN 11 – GOVERNMENT

RTN11 features your local governments in action and in detail. The lineup includes meetings of the Raleigh City Council, the Wake County Board of Commissioners, the Wake County School Board, the City of Raleigh Planning Commission, the City of Raleigh Telecommunications Commission and the Raleigh Citizens Advisory Council, plus monthly shows on City initiatives, exciting entertainment, residential or business venues blossoming downtown, Wake County initiatives and Wake County schools' concerns. Rounding out the viewing options are specials on newly implemented programs or matters of concern or interest, plus special events such as Artsplasure, Raleigh Wide Open and the St. Patrick's Day parade.

18

RTN 18 – EDUCATION

This is your source for distance learning provided by Cooperating Raleigh Colleges – Meredith College, North Carolina State University, Peace College, Shaw University, and St. Augustine's College.

22

RTN 22 – INFORMATION

This is Raleigh's informational and inspirational channel. Turn to RTN22 for the City View Calendar to keep in the know on news, events and meetings happening in Raleigh and throughout Wake County.



You also can watch RTN programming on your schedule, anywhere you have an Internet connection! Raleigh Television Network is proud to provide RTNSV, an online streaming video service that features a live feed of RTN 11, live and archived City Council meetings, and select on-demand programming. Log on to www.raleighnc.gov and click on the RTNSV logo to access this exciting new feature.

RTN 11 – GOVERNMENT YOUR GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

The following is a sampling of regularly scheduled programs that appear on RTN11 – Government to keep you fully informed about the City of Raleigh and Wake County governments.

RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL

First and third Tuesdays, 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. or 7 p.m. (evening sessions vary)

RALEIGH PLANNING COMMISSION

Second and fourth Tuesdays, 9 a.m.

RALEIGH CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Monthly third Wednesday, 7 p.m.

WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

First and third Thursdays, and Fridays, 1 p.m.

WAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

First and third Mondays, 2 p.m.

THE CITY SHOW

Mondays, 11 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, 9 a.m.; Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.
Fridays, 8:30 a.m.
Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sundays, 8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.

RTN 11 Programming Schedule

Mon Oct 20, 2008

- 12am - 12:30am All About Solid Waste Services
Creator: RTN RTN
- 12:30am - 7:30am NASA
Creator: RTN RTN
- 7:30am - 8am Raleigh City Services
Creator: RTN RTN
- 8am - 8:30am All About Solid Waste Services
Creator: RTN RTN
- 8:30am - 9:30am Raleigh Historic District presents Community Conversations luncheon presentation
Creator: RTN RTN
- 9:30am - 10am Under Construction:Capital Improvements
Creator: RTN RTN
- 10am - 10:30am Patterns of Memory
Creator: RTN RTN
- 10:30am - 11am The School Connection
Creator: RTN RTN
- 11am - 12:30pm The City Show
Creator: RTN RTN
- 12:30pm - 1pm Fire Watch
Creator: RTN RTN
- 1pm - 1:30pm Ready Wake PSA en Espanol
Creator: RTN RTN
- 1:30pm - 2pm WakeGovTV
Creator: RTN RTN
- 2pm - 6pm Wake County Board of Commissioners (live meeting)
Creator: RTN RTN
- 6pm - 6:30pm Wake Tech Public Safety Training
Creator: RTN RTN
- 6:30pm - 7pm WakeGovTV
Creator: RTN RTN
- 7pm - 7:30pm Under Construction:Capital Improvements
Creator: RTN RTN
- 7:30pm - 9pm The City Show
Creator: RTN RTN
- 9pm - 9:30pm Wake GovTV
Creator: RTN RTN
- 9:30pm - 10pm Park Connection
Creator: RTN RTN
- 10pm - 11pm 5th Annual Raleigh Neighborhood Exchange
Creator: RTN RTN
- 11pm - 12pm Wake Up, Wake County: Elections and Growth
Creator: RTN RTN

MINUTES

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON TELEVISIONING HOUSE SESSIONS

October 1, 2008, 11:00 A.M.
Room 1228, Legislative Building
Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman, called to order the first meeting of the House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, October 1, 2008. The following members of the committee were present Representative Linda Coleman, Representative Margaret Dickson, Representative Ric Killian, Representative Grier Martin, and Representative Mitchell Setzer. The agenda for the meeting is attached as Exhibit A, and Visitor Registration sheets are attached as Exhibit B.

Representative Tarleton welcomed everyone including staff, Ms. Brenda Carter and Ms. Heather Fennell, Staff Attorneys with the Research Division, Mr. Peter Capriglion, ISD Applications Manager; and Ms. Linda Neal, Committee Clerk. He also welcomed the Sergeant-At-Arms Staff members Mr. Marvin Lee, Mr. Dusty Rhodes, and Mr. James Worth.

Representative Tarleton stated the charge to the committee by the Speaker: "The committee shall study the feasibility, cost, and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The committee shall review and assess current television access to the State government and how it compares to other states and the federal government. The committee shall study any other related matter."

Representative Tarleton asked each member to make introductory comments and share with the other members their thoughts about this process.

Representative Mitchell Setzer started by saying that he was for the public being informed about what is going on. He said *Legislative Week in Review* does a good job, and he is as unsure how much the public would want to watch since the House sessions tend to be lengthy at times. He said there were a lot of details the members would have to cover before this task could be completed. Representative Setzer said he was optimistic as to how the committee would get this done.

Representative Grier Martin said that he was intrigued as to what he might possibly learn during the committee meetings.

Representative Ric Killian made reference to House Bill 2653, which he filed in the 2007-2008 legislative session. Representative Killian indicated surprise at the disconnect between State government and his Charlotte district. One reason he cited was

geography. Also, he noted that the people in his district can watch on television their school board, city council, town, and federal governments. However, his constituents cannot watch their state government in action. He said this committee process would help determine what obstacles have to be overcome to allow citizens to be able to watch their State government including the House, Senate, Council of State, and other parts of government.

Representative Margaret Dickson noted that she has been involved in broadcasting for over thirty years, as she grew up in a family-owned radio business. She believes broadcast coverage of House sessions would be a good thing. The reasons include:

1. Open Government
2. Economic Reasons –Media coverage around the state is decreasing because some small communities in North Carolina do not have any televised coverage that would allow citizens to become aware of what is happening. Televising would give them a choice to watch open State government.

Representative Linda Coleman said that she was glad this committee was established for all the reasons that had been previously discussed, especially open government. She said she was in a town meeting and was surprised to learn that candidates did not know how laws are made. Televising house sessions would allow for better communication between legislators and their constituents.

Representative Tarleton said he was glad so many committee members were interested in the openness and transparency of State government because he and the Speaker feel this is very important for our citizens.

Representative Tarleton continued by saying the staff had contacted different states to determine what if any broadcasting was already underway at these locations. He stated further that the committee was going to go live and view some of the televised models.

Heather Fennell, Staff Attorney with the Research Division, presented attached Exhibit C entitled, *House Select Committee on Televising House Session* and Exhibit D entitled, *Legislative Web casts of Floor Proceedings, Committee Hearings, and Archiving of Web casts*. Ms. Fennell provided information about what other states are doing by either web casting or broadcasting their State government. Some of these states do both web casting and broadcasting of committee meetings as well as debates during House and/or Senate sessions.

Representative Coleman wanted to know how much public feedback the Legislature gets from the *Legislature Week in Review*. Representative Tarleton asked if anyone knew the answer to Representative Coleman's question. There being none, Representation Tarleton said that in his district, there was very little review from this television broadcast. He said he received the majority of responses from the weekly report he writes for his local newspaper. Representative Tarleton asked if there were any

further questions for Ms. Fennell. Representative Tarleton said that in listening to Ms. Fennell's presentation, it was very obvious North Carolina is very behind other states in having some type of review for its citizens.

Representative Tarleton introduced Mr. Peter Capriglione, ISD Applications Manager. Mr. Capriglione's presentation included the infrastructure of the Legislative Building and estimated cost for televising House Legislation from the House chamber only. A chart is attached as per Exhibit E *10/2/08 House Select Committee on Televising Sessions Estimated Cost*.

Mr. Capriglione has been looking at the possibilities of televising and web streaming House and Senate sessions, committee meetings, etc. Mr. Dennis McCarty, Director, with ISD Department, and Mr. Capriglione has visited the states of Kentucky and Louisiana. Mr. Capriglione was in Minnesota two weeks ago looking at the set up at its location. He said that most states were very much alike. Mr. Capriglione said some states only do web streaming as Ms. Fennell mentioned; some do TV broadcasting for various reasons. The cost can vary. Web streaming is a little less expensive because it is not required to have the high-quality cameras to get video out. The control room equipment, all the background equipment, cabling, and electrical all come into play. The extra cost is the high-definition cameras in the chamber or better quality cameras. The cost to get the House chamber ready would be about \$1.3 million. Included in this number is equipment that can be used to broadcast from committee rooms. If, for example, the control equipment can add more capabilities or more input to committee rooms, the Senate chamber or the press room, the numbers for non recurring cost equipment would be about half or about \$600,000. Adding staff is another \$600,000 plus. This would be the recurring cost to do the House chamber. Of course, some of the staff can do more than one broadcast. For the infrastructure, the Legislature has upgraded the cabling in the Legislative Building which was started in 1987 and finished at the beginning of this year. The Legislative Building is now equipped with all IP telephones and all new cables to the desktop--two cables to each room. The Legislative Building does have fiber cable up in the risers to transmit data in this building also in the Legislative Office Building, which is very easy to cable and has the ability to pull cable to and from. The Legislative Building offers more challenges. When ISD upgraded the cable and electrical system, the cable went directly to the closets to prevent the phone systems from going down. If there is a power failure, all data, including phones, goes directly to a generator. This process supports the data and phones. If the Legislature does televising, staff's recommendation is that new cable will be pulled from those cameras to a control room for broadcasting separate from the network. This procedure does not impede the transmission of voice and data over the network. This means the Legislature can multitask the stream. This stream can be sent out so that everybody in the Legislature can view this data on their computers. Also, that stream service would be sent out to a possible pull feed for the media whereby the media could grab the pull feed and use it for their own purposes. Therein lays the reason that the Legislature should buy high-quality equipment.

If the Legislature decided to do web streaming, that would be a high-definition and high-quality video stream. Television stations would not have to bring cameras into the chambers or committee rooms to pick up debates.

After speaking with several people, staff's recommendation was that the Legislature should provide a TV-quality camera because if Legislature decided to go with broadcasting, all the preparations would be complete. Television cameras last a lot longer than PCs with a four year shelf life. These costs would probably be set for about ten to fifteen years with regards to the equipment used.

Representative Tarleton asked if there were any questions for Mr. Capriglione. Representative Martin asked Mr. Capriglione about the wiring and cabling infrastructure, which is in place, sequentially to support this initiative of keeping it separate from existing network and thereby insuring demands that the Legislature would be able to talk on the phones.

Mr. Capriglione said that was right.

Representative Martin asked if it was a viable option to just upgrade the existing bandwidth the Legislature has now and have everything shared on that highway.

Mr. Capriglione said the core switches, that do voice and data, are not up to speed for the task. At the present time, the Legislature does not currently have switches for video capability. The vendors do have that capability. The Legislative switches are about five to six years old and would require a big infrastructure upgrade. You can invest for the purpose of doing video data and voice. Staff's recommendation would still be a lot less expensive to upgrade all of the closet switches by running fiber from the camera location, because it would be fiber optic base instead of huge cables that are down in the basement of the Legislative Building today. He said the network needs are going to grow in terms of data and even voice as the Legislature advances in technology.

Representative Martin asked about the increased phone calls.

Mr. Capriglione said that the Legislative phones will probably be ringing off the hook. He said it would require less time to pull these fiber cables to where it would be located and set up the core infrastructure downstairs.

Representative Tarleton said that was a good question. He said he asked the same thing when he met with staff. The staff's recommendation was to go to dedicated lines so as not to create the possible overload on the existing equipment.

Representative Martin said the committee talked about the cost between cameras suited for web broadcasts versus cameras suited for televising or high-definition televising, which is a level above. Representative Martin questioned whether staff could give the committee a ballpark cost.

Mr. Capriglione said in Wisconsin, their cameras were about eight to twelve thousand dollars for regular web streaming quality cameras. The cameras would still be robotic or could be moved to pan. He suggested that the next time the committee meets; staff could show the quality difference in just web streaming versus broadcast television. Then, after a year or two, if the Legislature decides to go to TV broadcast, the web streaming cameras would be obsolete, which would require having to purchase high-definition cameras. He said his recommendation would be to buy the cameras now thereby giving the Legislature the advantage of having press, which would expand our footprint.

Representative Tarleton said that the high-definition cameras are \$50,000 each as opposed to \$8,000.

Representative Dickson asked if the \$1.3 million cost would get the Legislature to high-definition camera quality.

Mr. Capriglione said yes, with the recurring cost only being half that amount. Within the cost of \$1.3 million, it would allow the Legislature to expand to the Senate and to the committee rooms. This is a start up cost that would get the Legislature a lot farther than just House chamber broadcasting.

Representative Dickson asked how many committee rooms he factored into this cost.

Mr. Capriglione said, initially every one except for seventeen. That cost would increase to approximately \$500,000. When committee rooms are done; we have to factor in sound and lighting considerations, which would increase the cost. The Legislature can accommodate a lot more with digital cameras.

Representative Tarleton said the committee had at least two people in the audience that he wanted to recognize. He wanted to give them an opportunity to make comments. Representative Tarleton said one was Wade Hargrove, who represents NC Association of Broadcasters. He requested Mr. Hargrove to come forward for remarks to the committee.

Mr. Hargrove said the cable industry would applaud the House and this committee's leadership in trying to increase transparency of State government bringing its work back home so that people could see what the Legislature is doing. He said he agreed with Representative Killian, that there is extensive coverage of local, national, and international news. It seems there is a need for audio-video coverage. He said the news media welcomes and embraces what this committee is doing, and they have offered their full support.

Representative Tarleton recognized Ms. Ivy Hoffman, Executive Director, NC Agency for Public Telecommunications (APT), which is a division of State government operating under the direction of the Department of Administration.

Ms. Hoffman said Representative Tarleton had attended one of their meetings and televising the House chambers is a subject they are very interested in.

Representative Tarleton requested Ms. Hoffman come to the front to speak to the members.

Ms. Hoffman introduced their Chairman of the Board, Mr. Randy Fraser. In addition to being the Board Chair, Mr. Fraser previously was with Time Warner Cable for several years

Mr. Fraser said the NC Agency for Public Telecommunication has been established for 29 years. This organization provides services to state agencies producing the Open Net program that many legislators have participated in over the years or had an opportunity to watch. The agency is going through a planning process now wherein they are talking with a lot of people trying to identify potential opportunities for service throughout State government. He said one of the things they had discussions about was the potential opportunities for televising the Legislature. Mr. Fraser said a number of states across the country have some level of service today to give citizens an opportunity to see what is happening in their State government, which he felt was very valuable.

Mr. Fraser told a story about a meeting he had with Ted Turner, founder of CNN television network. The point Mr. Fraser was trying to make was that one should never underestimate what someone may want, as CNN was the first network to broadcast 24 hour news. Mr. Fraser said there are a lot of people interested in what is going on in their world, especially their government. Mr. Fraser also said APT is very anxious to work with the committee, as their feeling is that televising the Legislature has real opportunities.

Representative Tarleton asked if there were any questions for either Ms. Hoffman or Mr. Fraser. Their being none, Representative Tarleton asked if there was anyone else in the audience that had some views they would like to share with the committee.

Representative Tarleton said he would like to talk about some of the things the Speaker and he had seen or heard as to what direction the committee would like to follow. The members need to give staff direction as to what information they wanted to discuss at upcoming meetings. He asked if the members wanted to first talk about streaming live on the web as a first step, or would they prefer the Legislature to broadcast first? Representative Tarleton said the Legislature can put out a signal, but it may not be carried into people's homes. In future meetings, do the members want Mr. Fraser to bring in additional members from the cable industry and talk about what might be available to the Legislature? There are excess channels that cable companies have to operate in all municipalities in all their systems. Is it a possibility these channels could be available? He said he had talked with Tom Howe at WUNC about a digital channel of theirs, which is a possibility. Representative Tarleton said they had the whole issue of conversion of analog to digital equipment, which is occurring in February 2009. There is still a Brew Ha-Ha between broadcasters in the cable industry about carriage of digital

channels, which had not flushed itself out yet. Representative Tarleton asked for the committee's thinking.

Representative Killian said he was encouraged by the fact that citizens do have an interest in open government. He said staff has given the committee an accurate cost of infrastructure and televising. He said he was encouraged by others who are supportive within the industry and the administration. He agreed with Representative Tarleton as to what the members should decide, and what scope the committee should consider. He said the members might have to face a time frame. For example, the members may start discussions of something simple that could be accomplished in six months, but in another broad channel, it might take two years to complete. He said the members may consider the possibility of televising other departments of State government. Would this become a 24/7 365 station or the Oregon or Illinois channel? Would North Carolina have its own channel, would it televise the House session?

Representative Coleman said Representative Killian mentioned about the possibility of televising other parts of State government. She asked what part of State government.

Representative Killian said Council of State and Department of Transportation.

Representative Martin asked staff to obtain information from states that are currently doing web cast and televising, to find out what numbers they have on their web cast and what ratings they have on their television broadcasts. What are they are finding on their web casts and what sort of ratings are they getting on their televising? If it looks like these states are getting out to a broad number of people, whether it is satellite or cable, it will look more favorable for the committee, to get as broad a spectrum as possible. Also, he wanted staff to be sure that our schools have sufficient funding, and proper wiring, make sure our schools are getting broadband.

Representative Tarleton said the Legislature had already allotted extra funds for that.

Representative Martin asked if the Legislature would be required to broadcast all House sessions or if it would be at the chair's discretion.

Representative Tarleton said staff needs to find out from states that are broadcasting what percentage of penetration they are achieving in their states in terms of in-home viewing. Is it running on cable access channels, is there a dedicated channel, or exactly how is it being distributed? Representative Tarleton told Mr. Fraser that he may want to talk to him some more about this issue.

Representative Dickson said the members need to think in a larger context instead of just web casting initially. The members have talked about how coverage of State government has decreased in the traditional media. She thought there was a question about that. The other thing she saw happening on our cable stations is increasingly, they

are lining up with one side or the other of the political spectrum. There are fewer places in the media that you can receive the news void of editorial comment.

Representative Coleman said another thing members needed to address is when issues come up that may be controversial or very interesting to outside parties, the public may want copies. Will the Legislature just give them out? Who will pay for the cost?

Representative Killian questioned Mr. Capriglione if the cost of \$1.3 million is the cost for web cast or broadcasting? Mr. Capriglione said it was for web casting.

Mr. Capriglione said it was for broadcast quality over streaming.

Representative Tarleton asked Mr. Capriglione if this was still broadcast quality.

Mr. Capriglione said to answer Representative Coleman's question about cost after the fact, the amount of \$1.3 million did include archiving (storage). He said this was a decision that needed to be made. He said you could download or even put a pod cast out there, too.

Representative Killian asked Mr. Capriglione since the \$1.3 million is the cost for broadcasting, is there an additional fee for televising or is it a cost that is borne by consumers?

Mr. Capriglione's said if we have the equipment in-house to do that, it would be a pool feed. Broadcasters could link into that feed and get it out to the public however they chose, whether it would be an access channel or a digital channel. Once that feed was there, anyone could carry it free of charge because the Legislature would be providing that signal.

Representative Tarleton, said it was as simple as linking it up to the satellite so the cable systems around the state could pull it down. Representative Tarleton asked Mr. Fraser what was the State's penetration, 75%?"

Mr. Fraser said it was lower to mid sixties across the state. The total penetration for cable and satellite was 80%.

Representative Tarleton told Representative Killian there should not be significant incremental cost increases just to get it out there.

Representative Killian asked what was the likelihood that a provider would take our signal and get it out there.

Representative Tarleton said therein was the problem which the members alluded to earlier. Representative Tarleton asked Mr. Hargrove if he had a comment.

Mr. Hargrove said Mr. Brad Phillips, President NC Cable Telecommunications Association, was present as well as Mr. Jack Stanley, Regional Vice President with Government Affairs at Time Warner Cable. He said they may want to speak to provide some general information about what the channel is going to be, plus maybe some options.

Representative Tarleton apologized to Mr. Phillips and Mr. Stanley for not recognizing them earlier. He said the committee had planned to invite them at a later date. He requested they come to the front of the room to talk with the committee members, and requested they identify themselves for the record.

Jack Stanley, the Regional Vice President for Government Relations with Time Warner Cable introduced himself and stated he had been interested in the discussion that had gone on in the meeting today as they shared philosophically the interest in getting information out to the public, which is their business. He said Time Warner Cable distributed a variety of video program services and they had a variety of technology that is used now in the networks. He said they had to be careful that they do not over simplify the relationship in getting this out. The cable industry in North Carolina is fully diverse. Time Warner is the majority provider in the state. He said there were other companies, who were present here today like Mr. Brad Phillips, President of NC Cable Telecommunications Association. He said he was certain that they all shared the same view in terms of getting this information out. He said there would be some residual issues they would have to work out, and bandwidth issues that they would have to take into account. It is not just a question of taking a signal down off the satellite; it has to be put into the network and it will consume a certain amount of space, which will cost the operator a certain amount to make that available. He said there was a lot of detail to work through. From the point of view from the cable industry, he said they supported the concept. He said it might be a probability to start off with less than a 24 hour mission and then build into a 24 hour mission as the program gains people to watch. He said from our point of view, we are willing to work with the Legislature. We will be there hand in hand to do the best we can to make this work.

The next speaker was Mr. Brad Phillips, Vice President of Government Public Affairs with Time Warner Cable and President of NC Cable Telecommunications Association. Mr. Phillips said he was very excited about the opportunity of working with the committee members. He said there are a lot of programming opportunities out there. There are a lot of things that are happening now. We do not want to make a mistake by over simplifying the needs of infrastructure, internal at the Legislature, but they are external to the cable operators and dish providers, plus other providers that are entering the market, for instance AT&T. How do we all work together? The infrastructures are something that we will need to address. What does it take for Time Warner to get the signal out once they receive it? These are some of the issues he said they would need to work through. He said he could go on to talk about the resources of staffing and funding, but for the committee's first meeting, he thought the members had done a good job of trying to cover the field, and he was very encouraged. He said bandwidth is not an infinite resource. There are pay channels that are now provided to local governments. In

fact, he said he had on his desk fourteen different local communities asking for PEG access channels. He said providing these channels on his cable system, and again providing additional bandwidth for a North Carolina TV (or whatever it ends up being called) would be a challenge. He said it was something they would like to look at. How we can address the PEG issues as well as meet the needs of the Legislature at the same time. He said they looked forward to these discussions.

Representative Coleman said a lot of the small towns that carry the cable station asked for some funding this year to do the PEG channel. She said she thought this was something the members would have to look at to address the needs of the small towns of North Carolina. She said members were finding challenges now without that, and the committee was looking forward to working with the cable company to see if some of that could be accomplished.

Representative Tarleton asked Mr. Fraser if this committee makes the decision that the Legislature recommendation will be to broadcast as opposed to live streaming on the Internet; can the committee expect carriage from the cable industry across the state?

Mr. Fraser said Time Warner had a commitment to work with this committee and the Legislature to do all they can to provide that program. He said they would not resist by any means; they would work with the General Assembly to accomplish the task as expeditiously as possible.

Mr. Hargrove said he formerly worked with ATP, which started off on a small scale. He suggested using the small public dedicated access channels, which would help mitigate the challenge.

Representative Tarleton agreed with him.

Representative Martin wanted to know if it would be worth bringing satellite and *ITVB* into the challenge.

Representative Tarleton said absolutely, because they have penetration out there as well.

Representative Tarleton said he appreciated the gentlemen coming to the committee meeting today, as well as their candor.

Representative Tarleton recognized Mr. Dennis McCarty, Director, ISD Division. He asked Mr. McCarty if he had any ideas he wanted to share with the committee.

Mr. McCarty said that the members had learned about another scope today that could possibly be used. He said there are other challenges, which are technical, that the Legislature has to deal with, and statutes would need to be changed.

Representative Tarleton said the staff would need to tell the committee about any statutes that need to be changed so the members could get this accomplished.

Representative Tarleton asked if the committee members had anything else they wanted staff to research.

Representative Martin said it would be interesting to know what other states are doing and how they went about setting up their infrastructure. Also, would the Senate be televised and if so, where would this take place?

Representative Tarleton said he wanted to make sure that the Legislature had control of televising. He did not want this moved out to a third party which would be making judgments to produce and decide the type of programming as well as editorial decisions.

Representative Coleman wanted to know if this would be done similar to cities and towns now broadcasting their meetings. Representative

Tarleton agreed that they needed to have Research check on the parameters.

Representative Dickson said the committee needed to find out for sure if the public access channels could broadcast for the General Assembly.

Representative Tarleton wanted staff to ascertain the number of access channels available and poll the people controlling them to see if they could be made available. Representative Tarleton said that as he stated before, if the Legislature were to broadcast, the public access channels would probably be the right way to precede.

Representative Killian wanted staff to provide recommendations to the committee if the members should web cast versus televising? He said the committee needed to know if the range would be House and Senate or government. He feels that the Legislature should be televising all of State government.

Representative Martin said the further we move away from the Legislature, the less control we will have to mandate. He also suggested the Legislature should get this up and running and then let other State departments make decisions as to what they want to do. He also wanted staff to check what the Legislature has available now, what is on the Legislative website, and does it have links?

Staff stated that this is on the Legislative webpage now.

Representative Martin also asked staff to see if the Legislature could obtain some of the bells and whistles that other states currently have in their websites, plus the cost of these bells and whistles.

Representative Tarleton thanked everyone for being at the committee meeting today. He said he was going to get with staff to find out when they would be able to get all the information requested today so he could schedule another meeting. He said he told the Speaker that the members would meet the deadline of December 31, 2008, for a recommendation.

Representative Tarleton said because of the late date, the committee would have to have several meetings between now until the end of the year. He said committee members needed to keep in mind that we also have two major holidays and one election that need to be factored into this deadline.

There being no further business the committee adjourned at 12:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Cullie M. Tarleton, Chairman

Linda Neal, Committee Assistant

Attachments

Exhibit A	Agenda
Exhibit B	Visitor Registration
Exhibit C	House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions
Exhibit D	Legislative Web casts of Floor Proceedings, Committee Hearings, and Archiving of Web casts
Exhibit E	10/2/08 House Select Committee on Televising Sessions Estimated Cost



House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

AGENDA

October 1, 2008
Room 1228, Legislative Building
11:00 AM

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Committee Discussion

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Dennis McCarty, ISD Director

Peter Capriglione, Legislative Analyst for Information Technology

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Recognition of Interested Parties/Public Comment

Future Meetings/Instructions to Staff

Adjournment

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 10-01-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME	FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS
Bill Ramsey	NC AGENCY for Pub. Telecomm
Fran Wescott	NC APT
LATHAM HAMNER	NC APT
Jim Workman	NC APT
Sam Work	NC Center for Public Policy Research
Brad Phillips	TWC
Can Cowe	BPM HL
Wood Harpoue	"
Mary Trudge	"
Jack Stanley	TWC
Randy Fisher	APT

VISITOR REGISTRATION SHEET

House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions 10-01-08

Name of Committee

Date

VISITORS: PLEASE SIGN IN BELOW AND RETURN TO COMMITTEE CLERK

NAME

FIRM OR AGENCY AND ADDRESS

Tammy Martin

APT

John M. Hill

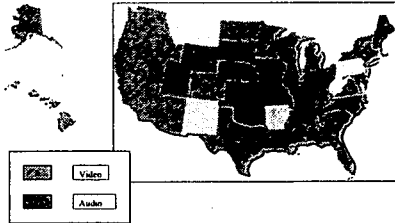
Gov Office

Overview of other states

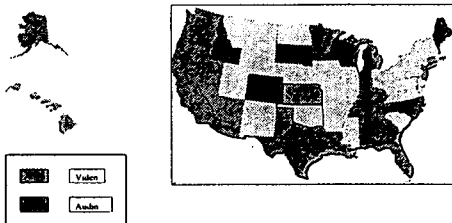
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What do these broadcasts look like?

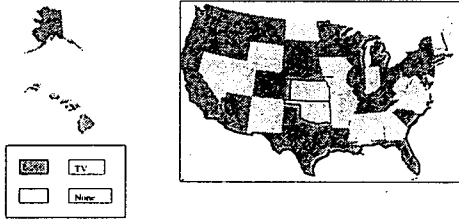
States with Webcasts of Floor Proceedings



States with Webcasts of Committee Hearings



States with Television Broadcasts



Examples from other states

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Examples from other states

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Oregon



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Puerto Rico	House Senate	<u>Audio</u> <u>Video</u>				
Rhode Island						<u>Rhode Island PBS</u>
South Carolina	Both	<u>Video</u>				<u>The South Carolina Channel</u>
South Dakota	House Senate	<u>Audio</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>Audio</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>Audio</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>Audio</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>South Dakota Public Television (SDPTV)</u>
Tennessee	House Senate	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>Tennessee Cable TV</u>
Texas	House Senate	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>PBS</u>
Utah	House Senate	<u>Audio</u> <u>Audio</u>	<u>Audio</u> <u>Audio</u>			
Vermont	Both	<u>Audio</u>				
Virgin Islands		<u>Audio</u>				
Virginia	Senate	<u>Video</u>				
Washington	Both	<u>Video</u>	<u>Audio</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Audio</u>	<u>TVW</u>

State	Chamber	Live Webcasts of Floor Proceedings	Archived Webcasts of Floor Proceedings	Live Webcasts of Committee Hearings	Archived Webcasts of Committee Hearings	Television Broadcasts (see also NAPAN)
West Virginia	None					
Wisconsin	Assembly Senate	Video Audio	Audio Video	Audio Video	Audio Video	Wisconsin Eye
Wyoming	House Senate	Audio Audio				

Legislative Webcasts of Floor Proceedings, Committee Hearings, and Archiving of Webcasts

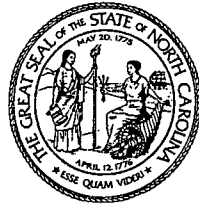
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The number of states that provide live broadcasts of their proceedings over the Internet and television continues to grow. As of January 2008, live proceedings were available on the Internet from 45 states plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Many legislatures also are offering webcasts of committee hearings. About half the states also archive floor or committee proceedings (for varying periods of time). At least 28 states and D.C. broadcast some legislative proceedings on television. Below is a chart with links to states legislatures' offerings.

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Alabama	House Senate	Audio Audio				
Alaska	Both	Video	Audio and Video	Video	Audio and Video	KTOO (PBS)
Arizona	House Senate	Video Video	Video	Video Video	Video	Arizona Capitol TV (Channel 123, Cox Communications)
Arkansas	None					

State	Chamber	Live Webcasts of Floor Proceedings	Archived Webcasts of Floor Proceedings	Live Webcasts of Committee Hearings	Archived Webcasts of Committee Hearings	Television Broadcasts (see also: NAPAN)
California	Both	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>The California Channel</u>
Colorado	House Senate	<u>Audio, Video</u> <u>Audio</u>		<u>Audio</u>		<u>The Colorado Channel</u>
Connecticut	Both	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Connecticut Network (CTN)</u>
Delaware	House	<u>Audio</u>				
District of Columbia		<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>District of Columbia</u>
Florida	House Senate	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>	<u>The Florida Channel</u>
Georgia	Both	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Video</u>		<u>Georgia Public Television</u>
Hawaii						<u>Channel 54 NATV</u>
Idaho	Both	<u>Video</u>		<u>Audio</u>		<u>Idaho Public Television</u>
Illinois	House Senate	<u>Video</u> <u>Video</u>				<u>The Illinois Channel</u>
Indiana	Both	<u>Audio and Video</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Audio and Video</u>		
Iowa	Both	<u>Audio</u>				

Item	Qty	each	Total	
Non-recurring				
Per Camera Charge	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	*not in total
Chamber Cameras	3	\$50,000	\$150,000	
Control Room Equipment	1	\$250,000	\$250,000	
Switches for additional Web Bandwidth	1	\$15,000	\$15,000	
Video Streaming Server/encoder	1	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Video Archiving Storage	1	\$100,000	\$100,000	
Software Purchases	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	
PC Purchases	3	\$2,600	\$7,800	
Cabling - LB	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	
Electrical - LB	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	
Telecommunication Architect Fees	1	\$60,000	\$60,000	
Total			\$657,800	
Recurring				
Equipment Maintenance	1	\$109,560.0	\$109,560	20% of purchase
Closed Captioning	.1	\$66,000	\$66,000	long session
Web Bandwidth @1500/mo	12	\$5,732	\$68,784	DS3
Salaries				
Producer	1	\$70,000	\$70,000	
Engineer	1	\$70,000	\$70,000	
Production technicians	2	\$40,000	\$80,000	
Web/network technicians	2	\$55,000	\$110,000	
Fringe Benefits (30% of salaries)	1	\$70,500	\$78,000	
Total			\$652,344	
First year Total			\$1,360,144	
Second year Total			\$652,344	



House Select Committee on Televising House Sessions

AGENDA

October 1, 2008
Room 1228, Legislative Building
11:00 AM

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Sam Warr	NC Center for Public Policy Research
Brad Phillips	TWC
Carr Cowen	BPM HL
Woodhargrove	"
Mann Tadge	"
Jack Stanley	TWC
Randy Fisher	APT

**House Select Committee on
Televising House Sessions**

October 1, 2008
11 am
1228 LB

Charge of the Committee

"The Committee shall study the feasibility, cost and other aspects of creating live broadcasts of floor sessions and other meetings in the House of Representatives. The Committee shall review and assess current television access to State Government and how it compares to other states and the federal government. The Committee shall study any other related matter."

Members

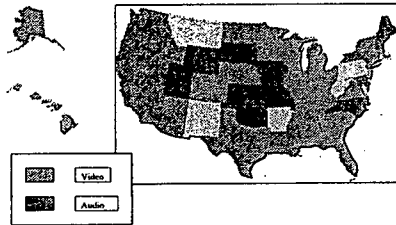
- Representative Cullie Tarleton, Chair
- Representative Linda Coleman
- Representative Margaret Dixon
- Representative Ric Killian
- Representative Grier Martin
- Representative Mitch Setzer
- Representative Thom Tillis
- Denise Weeks, House Principal Clerk, Advisory Member

Overview of other states

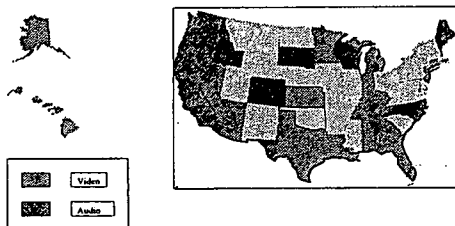
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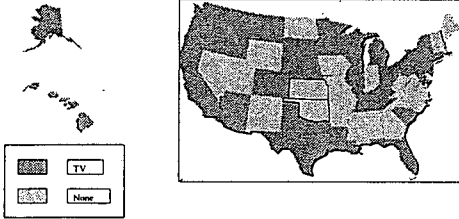
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