

1 or providing a significant new program service as defined by
2 rule by the State Board of Education.

3 (b) Maintenance of quality broadcast capability for
4 educational stations that are part of the program system.

5 (c) Interconnection of all educational stations that
6 are part of the program system for simultaneous broadcast and
7 of such stations with all universities and other institutions
8 as necessary for sharing of resources and delivery of
9 programming.

10 (d) Establishment and maintenance of a capability for
11 statewide program distribution with facilities and staff,
12 provided such facilities and staff complement and strengthen
13 existing or future educational television and radio stations
14 in accordance with paragraph (a) and s. 1001.25(2)(c).

15 (e) Provision of both statewide programming funds and
16 station programming support for educational television and
17 educational radio to meet statewide priorities. Priorities for
18 station programming need not be the same as priorities for
19 programming to be used statewide. Station programming may
20 include, but shall not be limited to, citizens' participation
21 programs, music and fine arts programs, coverage of public
22 hearings and governmental meetings, equal air time for
23 political candidates, and other public interest programming.

24 (2)(a) The Department of Education is responsible for
25 implementing the provisions of this section pursuant to s.
26 282.102 and may employ personnel, acquire equipment and
27 facilities, and perform all duties necessary for carrying out
28 the purposes and objectives of this section.

29 (b) The department shall provide through educational
30 television and other electronic media a means of extending
31 educational services to all the state system of public

1 education. The department shall recommend to the State Board
2 of Education rules necessary to provide such services.

3 (c) The department is authorized to provide equipment,
4 funds, and other services to extend and update both the
5 existing and the proposed educational television and radio
6 systems of tax-supported and nonprofit, corporate-owned
7 facilities. All stations funded must be qualified by the
8 Corporation for Public Broadcasting or licensed by the Federal
9 Communications Commission as full-power, noncommercial
10 educational broadcast systems. New stations eligible for
11 funding shall provide a first service to an audience that is
12 not currently receiving a broadcast signal or provide a
13 significant new program service as defined by State Board of
14 Education rules. Funds appropriated to the department for
15 educational television and funds appropriated to the
16 department for educational radio may be used by the department
17 for either educational television or educational radio, or for
18 both.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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22 SENATE SUMMARY

23 Requires that certain radio and television stations
24 licensed as full-power, noncommercial educational
25 broadcast systems by the Federal Communications
26 Commission be supported under the state public
27 broadcasting system. Authorizes the Department of
28 Education to provide funding for such stations.
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