



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 286

LCO No. 2142



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC, EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMMING AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT ACCOUNT (PEGPETIA) GRANT PROGRAM AND MUNICIPALLY OPERATED EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNELS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The sum of four million two
2 hundred thousand dollars is appropriated to the Public Utilities
3 Regulatory Authority for deposit into the public, educational and
4 governmental programming and education technology investment
5 account, as established in subsection (a) of section 16-331cc of the
6 general statutes, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June
7 30, 2017, for the purposes stated in subsection (b) of section 16-331cc of
8 the general statutes.

9 Sec. 2. Section 16-331ff of the general statutes is repealed and the
10 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

11 (a) Any third-party nonprofit community access provider [serving
12 six municipalities, one of which has a population of more than one

13 hundred thirty thousand,] shall, upon request from any town
14 organization, authority, body or official within its service territory,
15 provide written consent, pursuant to its service provider agreements,
16 for said town organization, authority, body or official to (1) operate
17 education and government public access channels in that town, and (2)
18 engage freely and directly with the community antenna television
19 company providing services in [that] such town to use their headend
20 equipment for dissemination of town-specific community access
21 programming on such channels. Said third-party nonprofit community
22 access provider [must] shall grant such written consent to said
23 requesting town organization, authority, body or official [within] not
24 later than three business days after receipt of such request. [Written
25 consent not provided within three business days shall be deemed
26 granted.] Failure to grant such written consent within such three-day
27 period shall be deemed to be consent.

28 (b) If a third-party nonprofit community access provider fails to
29 provide written consent within three days, pursuant to subsection (a)
30 of this section, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority shall, upon a
31 request from [a] such town organization, authority, body or official
32 within the service territory of [that] the third-party nonprofit
33 community access provider, [serving six municipalities, one of which
34 has a population of more than one hundred thirty thousand,] (1)
35 terminate, revoke or rescind such third party nonprofit provider's
36 service agreement to provide public access programming within one
37 hundred eighty days, and (2) reopen the application process to secure
38 a community access provider for each of the towns within the affected
39 service territory.

40 Sec. 3. Section 97 of public act 15-244 is repealed. (*Effective from*
41 *passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------|
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | 16-331ff |
| Sec. 3 | <i>from passage</i> | Repealer section |

Statement of Purpose:

To provide funding for the public, educational and governmental programming and education technology investment account and expand municipally operated education and government public access channels.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]