
By: **Delegates Smigiel, Frank, Aumann, Bates, Cluster, Costa, Dwyer,
Eckardt, Edwards, Elliott, Elmore, Haddaway, Jennings, Kach, Krebs,
Mayer, McComas, McConkey, McMillan, Miller, Myers, O'Donnell,
Shank, Shewell, Sossi, and Stull**

Introduced and read first time: March 1, 2006

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Broadcasting - Maryland Public Television Freedom in Broadcasting**
3 **Act**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission or a
5 division of the Commission, when entering into a contractual relationship with
6 the State or an entity of the State for television broadcasting services, to include
7 a provision in the contract to allow the Commission or a division of the
8 Commission to select the events it will film and broadcast; and generally
9 relating to the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article - Education
12 Section 24-201
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article - Education
17 Section 24-205
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article - Education**

23 24-201.

24 There is a Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission.

1 24-205.

2 (a) The Commission shall operate a system of State, regional, and local
3 facilities to provide educational and cultural radio and television programs in this
4 State.

5 (b) The Commission, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is
6 responsible for and shall control the preparation, content, scheduling, and
7 programming of all educational television and radio programs used in the public
8 schools and adult education programs of this State.

9 (c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the Commission is
10 responsible for and shall control the preparation, content, programming, and
11 scheduling of all its programs for the general public.

12 (D) WHEN ENTERING INTO A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE
13 OR AN ENTITY OF THE STATE FOR TELEVISION BROADCASTING SERVICES, THE
14 COMMISSION OR A DIVISION OF THE COMMISSION SHALL INCLUDE A PROVISION IN
15 THE CONTRACT TO ALLOW THE COMMISSION OR DIVISION OF THE COMMISSION TO
16 SELECT THE EVENTS IT WILL FILM AND BROADCAST.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2006.