



HOUSE BILL 218: Broadcast NC House of Reps Sessions.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 6, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. D. Hall, Saine, Jones	Prepared by:	Jeremy Ray
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 218 would provide video access of the House of Representatives' daily legislative sessions to the general public through internet broadcast, and would televise daily legislative sessions through the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television that are of particular public importance. House Bill 218 would also establish a House Select Committee on Televising Legislative Sessions (Committee) to study the feasibility of creating a new channel to broadcast all legislative sessions of the House of Representatives for use by the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would require the installation of video equipment in the House of Representatives chamber, and the installation of an on-site control center to manage production and broadcast. The Legislative Services Office would be required to provide staff from the Information Systems Division to procure necessary equipment, and to implement daily video production, broadcast, and archival of the House of Representatives' legislative sessions. Recordings of legislative sessions would be accessible to the general public through the North Carolina General Assembly website.

Section 2 would require the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television to broadcast daily legislative sessions of the House of Representatives that are of particular public importance.

Section 3 would create the House Select Committee on Televising Legislative Sessions. The Committee would study the feasibility of creating a new channel for use by the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television to broadcast all legislative sessions of the House of Representatives.

The Committee would consist of nine members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker would designate the chair, and the Committee would meet upon the call of the Chair. The Committee would be granted the power to conduct hearings, examine witnesses under oath, and issue subpoenas.

Members of the committee would receive subsistence and travel expenses, and the ability to contract for consultants and hire employees. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, would assign professional staff to assist the committee with its work, and direct the Supervisors of Clerks of the Senate and the House to assign clerical staff to the Committee. The Committee would report its findings and recommendations to the 2019 General Assembly no later than April 15, 2020.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective when it becomes law.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578