



Maine Public Broadcasting Network

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MPBN Announces Launch of the Maine Capitol Connection

(Bangor/Lewiston/Portland) – The Maine Public Broadcasting Network announces the upcoming launch of the Maine Capitol Connection on Tuesday, February 5th. The Maine Capitol Connection is a free over-the-air television channel and cable channel devoted to providing public access to the political processes of the Maine State Legislature in Augusta.

Core coverage will include the entire daily work sessions of the Maine State Senate and the Maine House of Representatives in addition to important committee hearings, special events, and selected press conferences where possible during each session. Journalist Mal Leary will spearhead the project and serve as the Managing Editor and Director of the initiative. This is a pilot program designed to last to the end of the current legislative session.

“We have pulled out all the stops internally at MPBN to make the Maine Capitol Connection a reality and the leadership in Augusta have been outstanding partners every step of the way,” states MPBN’s President and CEO, Mark Vogelzang. “Everyone in Augusta is excited, all of us at MPBN are, and we’ve already started to hear from individuals across the state that this service is something that they’ve hoped to see one day in their own households.”

The project is born from MPBN’s longstanding mission of connecting the people of Maine to each other and delivering independent news and information and from repeated viewer and listener requests for more news and information specific to Maine.

“The Maine Capitol Connection at its core is about access and transparency in government, but also it’s about deepening and strengthening the relationship between Maine’s citizens and their elected officials,” continued Vogelzang. “We believe that this is not only a very worthy service that MPBN will be providing, but also one that can have broad benefits for Maine in the years to come.”

MPBN is encouraging citizens to visit MPBN.Net for more information on the Maine Capitol Connection, including how to find the new channel over the air and on cable. The channel will not be available via satellite providers.

The Maine Public Broadcasting Network operates five television transmitters (WCBB-TV - Augusta - 10, WMEA-TV - Biddeford – 26, WMED-TV - Calais – 13, WMEB-TV - Orono – 12, WMEM-TV - Presque Isle – 10), and seven radio transmitters (WMEH-FM - Bangor - 90.9, WMED-FM - Calais - 89.7, WMEP-FM - Camden - 90.5, WMEF-FM - Fort Kent - 106.5, WMEA-FM - Portland - 90.1, WMEM-FM - Presque Isle - 106.1, WMEW-FM - Waterville - 91.3) reaching households in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Atlantic Canada. MPBN also delivers content to a worldwide audience via its website, www.mpbn.net.

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