



Tennessee Public Television Stations to Offer Statewide Coverage of the 107th Tennessee General Assembly Sessions

WLJT, along with Tennessee's other five public television stations, has embarked on a plan to broadcast live coverage of legislative sessions of the 107th Tennessee General Assembly. The sessions will air on WLJT 11.2 beginning January 10th.

The coverage, which is in partnership with the Tennessee General Assembly, will offer citizens a chance to witness Senate and House sessions live. Selected committee meetings will also air. The schedule for each week's broadcasts will be decided by the Tennessee Senate and House on the previous Thursdays.

This project is funded under an agreement with the Tennessee General Assembly and with additional support from AT&T and BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee and by the following members of the Tennessee Credit Union League: Appalachian Community Federal Credit Union; Ascend Federal Credit Union; Bowater Employees Credit Union; City of Memphis Credit Union; First South Financial Credit Union; Kimberly Clark Credit Union; Leaders Credit Union; Tennessee Valley Federal Credit Union; US Community Credit Union; and UT Federal Credit Union.

"Since becoming lieutenant governor, I have done all that I can to make state government more accessible to the people we serve. Our legislative sessions and committee meetings are streamed live over the internet and archived for anyone with access to a computer," said Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey. "Now, thanks to our public television stations, Tennesseans can now witness their democracy in action from the comfort of their home television. This service is an outstanding expansion of our mission to make Tennessee the most open and transparent state in the Union."

"The work of public television stations across this great state to bring our legislative proceedings into the living rooms of Tennesseans from Memphis to Mountain City is to be commended," said Speaker Beth Harwell. "We appreciate their broadcast of state government, and their commitment to ensure the process is more transparent and more accessible to the public. Efforts such as this are the very foundation of principles on which this country was founded."

"This is an exciting opportunity for WLJT and all of Tennessee's Public Television Stations," said Monica Shumake, WLJT General Manager & CEO. "Having an informed citizenry is an important part of our democratic process and the Tennessee Public Television Stations are proud to be a part of this information sharing process."