

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 694

H. P. 481

House of Representatives, February 8, 1967

Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT to Provide State-wide Education Service for the Blind.**

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

**State-wide education service for the blind.** In order to enable the Division of Eye Care and Special Services to provide adult education specialists for the blind on a state-wide basis, there is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Welfare the sum of \$15,200 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 and the sum of \$15,600 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1967-68	1968-69
HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Division of Eye Care and Special Services		
Personal Services	(2) \$14,000	(2) \$14,400
All Other	1,200	1,200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$15,200	\$15,600

STATEMENT OF FACTS

At the present time virtually no adult education services are available to blind adults outside of the greater Portland area which is served by one specialist.

These services provide the adult blind with the skills to care for themselves, to do the activities of homemaking, and to give some of the basic skills that will enable them to move into training for competitive employment. A recent study of services to the blind in Maine by the American Foundation for the Blind points out the crucial lack of adult education services to the blind and recommends a minimum of 3 adult education specialists for the State.