

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 549

S. P. 204

In Senate, February 1, 1973

On motion of Senator Berry of Cumberland, referred to Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Brennan of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**AN ACT Appropriating Funds to Educate and Rehabilitate Persons
Handicapped by Severe Losses of Hearing and Speech Impairments.**

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

Department of Health and Welfare; appropriation. There is appropriated to the Department of Health and Welfare from the General Fund the sum of \$32,000 to provide special rehabilitation and vocational services to the severely deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired. To assure program coordination and effectiveness, personnel funded by this Act shall work in cooperation with the Baxter School for the Deaf. All funds appropriated under this Act shall be available to the extent they are matched by federal funds. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1973-74	1974-75
HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Vocational Rehabilitation		
Personal Services	(2) \$ 3,040	(2) \$ 3,190
All Other	12,810	12,810
Capital Expenditures	150	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$16,000	\$16,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to offer help to the 1490 people with handicaps severe enough to require rehabilitation services (840 with hearing impair-

ments and 650 with speech impairments). The purpose of this bill is to offer service via a joint effort funded by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation with staff to be located at the Baxter School for the Deaf.

Matching money is available under the national Vocational Rehabilitation Act at a 4-1 ratio. Thus, 80% of the program expense will be paid by federal tax dollars, returning to Maine a total of \$128,000.