MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 2 3	(New Draft of S.P. 172, L.D. 464) FIRST REGULAR SESSION							
4 5	ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE							
6 7	Legislative Document No. 1447							
8	S.P. 540 In Senate, April 30, 1985							
10	Reported by Senator Brown of Washington from the Committee on Education and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by Senator Andrews of Cumberland. Cosponsored by Senator Clark of Cumberland, Senator Brown of Washington and Representative Connolly of Portland.							
	JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate							
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13 14	STATE OF MAINE							
15 16 17	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE							
18 19 20 21	AN ACT Relating to Instruction in American Sign Language in Public Schools and Institutions of Higher Education.							
22 23	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:							
24 25 26	20-A MRSA §4726, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. C, §§5 and 7, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:							
27	§4726. Foreign languages							
28	Each school administrative unit:							
29 30	1. Required to offer. Shall offer one 2-year sequence in a foreign language;							
31 32 33	2. Encouraged to offer. Is encouraged to offer one or more additional foreign languages as part of its secondary school program; and							

1	3.	Americar	n si	gn langu	age.	May	off	er Amer	ican
2	sign	language	to	fulfill	the	forei	gn	language	re-
3	quiren	ment under	sub	section	2.				

STATEMENT OF FACT

This new draft reorganizes current law and the language of the bill to clarify the meaning. Schools are currently required to offer 2 years of a foreign language and are encouraged to offer additional foreign languages. The new draft allows schools to offer American sign language as an additional foreign language.

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