

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 395

H.P. 283

House of Representatives, February 23, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative ANTHONY of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

**An Act to Appropriate Current Fiscal Year Funds for
Telecommunication Services Provided to Deaf and Hearing Impaired
Persons.**

(EMERGENCY)



1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
3 as emergencies; and

5 Whereas, deaf and hearing impaired people must use
teletypewriters in order to make telephone calls; and

7 Whereas, the only means for deaf and hearing impaired
9 persons to engage in telephone communications with nondeaf
persons is through a teletypewriter-vocal telephone relay
11 service; and

13 Whereas, the telephone relay services presently provided in
Bangor, Lewiston and Portland are in jeopardy and will be unable
15 to continue present services through this fiscal year; and

17 Whereas, without telephone relay services deaf and hearing
impaired people will lack a primary means of obtaining fire,
19 police, medical and other emergency services, obtaining
information about and access to government programs and services
21 and communicating generally with the rest of society; and

23 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
25 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
27 safety; now, therefore,

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

31 **Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the
General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

33		1988-89
35	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF	
37	All Other	\$22,000
39	Provides funds to allow the program to	
41	continue through the end of the current	
43	fiscal year.	

45 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to allow the present limited
vocal relay services provided to the deaf and hearing impaired
persons to continue through the end of the current fiscal year.

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