

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 746

H.P. 549

House of Representatives, March 9, 1989

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

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative ROLDE of York.
Cosponsored by Representative ADAMS of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Promote Access to, and Security for, Maine's Official
Historical Documents.



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

3 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §95, sub-§11,** as enacted by PL 1973, c. 625,
5 §16, is amended to read:

7 11. Archives available for public use. To make archival
9 material under his the State Archivist's supervision available
11 for public use at reasonable times. He The State Archivist shall
13 carefully protect and preserve such materials from deterioration,
15 mutilation, loss or destruction. The State Archivist shall
ensure that research areas are appropriately designed, equipped
and supervised to allow public use that will not endanger
materials from damage by users or from opportunities for theft.
The State Archivist shall ensure that sufficient resources are
allocated to the restoration and copying of these materials to
allow their use by future generations;

17 **Sec. 2. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
19 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

21 1989-90 1990-91

23 **SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF THE**

25 **Maine State Archives**

27	Positions	(2)	(2)
	Personal Services	\$38,000	\$41,436
29	Capital Expenditures	25,000	

31 Provide funds for 2 Records
33 Technician II positions; one
35 person to provide technical
37 and supervisory assistance to
39 the Archives Search Room to
41 increase security and to
43 assist the public in the use
45 of microfilm and other
47 materials; and one person to
49 provide additional
51 preservation services, such
as binding of weakened
volumes, boxing of materials
taken out of circulation and
surveying current holdings
for preventive action; and
for renovation of the
Archives Search Room area,
separating microfilm users
from other document users to
enhance security and to

1 provide greater, and less
2 restricted, access to
3 microfilm resources.

5 DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE _____
6 TOTAL \$63,000 \$41,436

7
8
9 STATEMENT OF FACT

11
12 The search room of the Maine State Archives must be
13 redesigned to ensure proper oversight of researchers using
14 irreplaceable state records. Currently, visibility is restricted
15 in certain areas so that archives staff cannot observe
16 researchers at all times. Users of microfilm and users of
17 original records now share the same undivided research area, even
18 though quite different security requirements are necessary for
19 each.

21 This bill will provide funds to renovate the search room to
22 reduce barriers to visibility and to segregate the 2 types of
23 research activity. It will provide an additional person to staff
24 the search room to increase security and provide assistance to
25 researchers. Finally, it will provide an assistant to the
26 preservation staff person to repair and protect original records
27 which have experienced increased use as visits to the archives
28 have reached record numbers during 1988.
29