

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 500

S.P. 191

In Senate, February 10, 1995

An Act to Connect Libraries and Communities Electronically.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator McCORMICK of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Senator O'DEA of Penobscot and
Senators: CIANCHETTE of Somerset, CLEVELAND of Androscoggin, ESTY of
Cumberland, MILLS of Somerset, STEVENS of Androscoggin, Representatives: BARTH of
Bethel, CAMERON of Rumford, DESMOND of Mapleton, ETNIER of Harpswell, GREEN
of Monmouth, KONTOS of Windham, SIROIS of Caribou, TREAT of Gardiner, WINN of
Glenburn.

2
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §39**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A,
5 §109, is further amended to read:

6 **§39. Statewide Library Information System**

7 **1. Statement of policy.** The Legislature declares that it
8 is the policy of the State that cooperation among Maine libraries
9 of all types should be fostered and encouraged. The sharing of
10 library holdings and of library-developed tools for obtaining
11 electronic information from networked resources enriches the
12 economic, educational and cultural life of each Maine community.
13 Citizen access to materials purchased with public dollars in an
14 era of widespread access to electronic information networks
15 requires that materials be identifiable by title and physical
16 location. It is in the public interest that the Maine State
17 Library promote and assist access by recording ~~the holdings of~~
18 ~~Maine libraries in a form accessible by modern information~~
19 ~~technology~~ information about resources available through Maine
20 libraries and maintaining them in a always-current, immediately
21 accessible electronic form readily available to every citizen
22 through a variety of telephone and network connections. In this
23 way, the educational and informational resources of the State
24 will be available to every citizen.

25 **2. Legislative intent.** Recognizing the value of broad
26 citizen access to ~~library materials and recognizing that~~
27 ~~automated records are essential to the use of technology~~
28 ~~information~~, the State assigns to the Maine State Library the
29 responsibility of ~~collecting the holding records of libraries~~
30 ~~throughout Maine and making them accessible in machine-readable~~
31 ~~form~~ providing electronic access to information resources
32 including: the creation of an online catalog of the holdings of
33 libraries and other governmental units throughout the State; the
34 provision of online indexing, full text and document delivery of
35 newspaper, periodical and journal articles; the maintenance of a
36 gateway to the Internet and its vast array of electronic
37 resources; the coordination of an effective and efficient means
38 of transporting physical materials among libraries; and the
39 development of a program to teach citizens of the State to
40 successfully locate, retrieve and use the information contained
41 within various computer systems. It is the State's intent that
42 these records be shared with any citizen or library on request.
43 It is the intent of the Legislature to provide the Maine State
44 Library with the resources necessary to carry out this section.

45 **Sec. 2. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
46 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.
47
48
49
50

	1995-96	1996-97
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4		
	MAINE STATE LIBRARY	
6		
	Maine State Library	
	Positions	(2) (2)
8	Personal Services	\$98,000 \$98,000
	All Other	3,019,168 989,749
10	Capital Expenditures	1,075,086 72,780
12		
	MAINE STATE LIBRARY	
14		
	TOTAL	\$4,192,254 \$1,160,529

16 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

18 This bill authorizes an online system by which citizens may
20 easily locate library information and determine its availability
across the State, as well as gain access to global information
resources through high-speed information networks.