

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1965

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DATE: *March 6, 1998*

(Filing No. S- 490)

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 722, L.D. 1965, Bill, "An Act to Appropriate Funds for the Interpreter Service for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1998-99

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

Rehabilitation Services

All Other \$36,400

Appropriates funds for hourly interpreting services, in-service training for certain law enforcement and court agencies, establishment of an emergency response system to access on-call legal interpreters and for administrative purposes. The Department of Labor is authorized to utilize other available resources to accomplish these purposes.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

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FISCAL NOTE

1998-99

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

General Fund \$36,400

This bill includes a General Fund appropriation of \$36,400 in fiscal year 1998-99 for expanded services for deaf and hard of hearing persons served by the Rehabilitation Services program within the Department of Labor.

This bill authorizes the Department of Labor to utilize other available resources to achieve an expansion of services for deaf and hard of hearing persons. The department has approximately \$20,000 in previously allocated federal funds that can be used for this purpose in fiscal year 1997-98 and the same amount in fiscal year 1998-99.

SUMMARY

This amendment eliminates the General Fund appropriation for fiscal year 1997-98 and reduces the General Fund appropriation for fiscal year 1998-99 to \$36,400. The amendment also authorizes the Department of Labor to utilize other available resources to achieve an expansion of services for the deaf and hard of hearing. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.