

# 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)

*m*  
*R.d.S.*

L.D. 154

2  
4  
DATE: *1-26-00*

(Filing No. H-*772*)

6  
8  
**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

10 Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of  
12 the House.

14  
16  
**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

18  
20 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "*A*" to H.P. 123, L.D. 154, Bill, "An  
22 Act to Provide Funding to the Maine Center for the Blind and  
Visually Impaired"

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

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

**2000-01**

30  
32  
**LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

34  
**Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

36 All Other \$45,000

38 Provides funds on a one-time  
40 basis for the establishment  
42 of an audio information  
44 service through the Maine  
46 Center for the Blind and  
48 Visually Impaired for people  
who are blind or visually  
impaired and other people in  
the State who are unable to  
access printed information  
due to a disability. The  
Department of Labor shall

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs by February 2, 2001 on the status of the Maine Airs program.

FISCAL NOTE

2000-01

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

General Fund \$45,000

This amendment reduces the General Fund cost of the bill by \$90,000 in fiscal year 1999-00 and \$15,000 in fiscal year 2000-01.

This bill, as amended, includes a General Fund appropriation of \$45,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired in the Department of Labor to establish an audio information service through the Maine Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.'

SUMMARY

This amendment eliminates the original request in fiscal year 1999-00 of \$90,000 and lowers the original request for fiscal year 2000-01 from \$60,000 to \$45,000.

The fiscal year 2000-01 appropriation will be used by the Maine Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, in conjunction with the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation, to fund a program, Maine Airs, that would have daily and weekly newspapers read for listening by the more than 12,000 residents of the State who are print-disabled.

This amendment also clarifies that this funding is provided on a one-time basis and requires the Department of Labor to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs on the status of the program.