

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 499

H.P. 374

House of Representatives, January 14, 1999

**An Act to Appropriate Funds for Acquisitions for the Maine State
Library and for Library Resource Sharing.**

(EMERGENCY)

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative COLWELL of Gardiner.
Cosponsored by Senator CATHCART of Penobscot and
Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, TOWNSEND of Portland, Senators:
GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, TREAT of Kennebec.

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

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6 **Whereas,** the Maine State Library is a valuable resource for
citizens of the State; and

8 **Whereas,** in order to continue providing a high level of
service, it is imperative that the Maine State Library receive
10 the funding so that there is no interruption of service; and

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

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

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

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26 **1999-00**

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

Maine State Library

28 All Other \$200,000

30 Provides \$200,000 increase in
32 the Maine State Library's
acquisition budget for the
34 purchase of library materials.

36 **Maine State Library**

38 All Other \$75,000

40 Provides \$75,000 to support
42 improved version of MaineCat.

44 **MAINE STATE LIBRARY**

TOTAL \$275,000

46 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
48 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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SUMMARY

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This bill increases the Maine State Library's acquisition budget to the level of the other area reference and resource centers located at the Bangor and Portland Public Libraries. The bill also provides funds to merge the current CD ROM program, MaineCat, with the on-line Maine Info Net project to produce a single comprehensive and accurate statewide library catalog immediately accessible from any computer with an Internet connection.