

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1102, L.D. 1471, Bill, "An Act to Create a Digital Library to Meet the Educational, Research, Business and Economic Needs of Maine"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

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

Whereas, creating a digital library will provide access to needed information for all of the State's organizations and individuals; and

Whereas, having one central agency responsible for establishing and implementing a digital library would allow for cost efficiencies; and

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

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 409, §2, is amended to read:

2. Authority. Pursuant to the authority granted in section 7104 and in order to carry out the policy goals established by section 7101, subsections 1, 2 and 4, the commission shall

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2 establish a telecommunications education access fund, referred to  
3 in this section as the "fund," and require all telecommunications  
4 carriers offering telecommunications services in the State and  
5 any other entities identified by the commission pursuant to  
6 subsection 8 to contribute to the fund. The fund must be  
7 available, with any accumulated interest, to qualified libraries  
8 and, qualified schools and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the  
9 University of Maine to assist in paying the costs of acquiring  
10 and using advanced telecommunications technologies.

11 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§§4, 5 and 7,** as enacted by PL  
12 1999, c. 409, §2, are amended to read:

13 **4. Use of fund.** The fund must be used to provide discounts  
14 to qualified libraries and, qualified schools and the Raymond H.  
15 Fogler Library at the University of Maine for the following:

- 16 A. Telecommunications services;
- 17 B. Internet access;
- 18 C. Internal connections;
- 19 D. Computers; and
- 20 E. Training; and
- 21 F. Content.

22 **5. Guidelines for funding.** The commission shall allocate  
23 money from the fund using the following guidelines:

- 24 A. To ensure a basic level of connectivity for all of the  
25 qualified schools and qualified libraries in the State;
- 26 B. To ensure that all qualified schools and, qualified  
27 libraries and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the  
28 University of Maine are capable of using the advanced  
29 technology equipment obtained through the fund;
- 30 C. To ensure that more technologically sophisticated  
31 equipment is available to students in grades 9 to 12 and in  
32 larger qualified libraries in the State;
- 33 D. To provide for necessary equipment to use the services  
34 obtained through the fund;
- 35 E. To provide for internal connections necessary to use the  
36 services obtained through the fund;

2 F. To provide training to teachers so that they may assist  
and educate their students in the use of the advanced  
4 technology equipment; and

6 G. To provide for the establishment of computer technology  
training programs in schools to provide training to students  
8 in areas such as, but not limited to, electronic commerce,  
Internet proficiency and World Wide Web-enabled systems; and

10 H. To provide for electronic database content to be used  
for the purposes of accessing information by schools and  
12 libraries.

14 A minimum of 25% of each annual program budget must be devoted to  
targeted projects that are innovative and technologically  
16 advanced.

18 **7. Coordination with existing facilities.** Any existing  
facilities developed to provide services to qualified schools  
20 and qualified libraries and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the  
University of Maine, as directed by the commission under this  
22 section, must continue to provide services to qualified schools  
and qualified libraries and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at  
24 the University of Maine at rates that reflect the incremental  
costs to use those facilities.

26 **Sec. 3. Cooperation.** The Maine State Library and the Raymond  
28 H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine shall work  
cooperatively to provide access technology as well as licensing  
30 agreements to acquire publicly available databases.

32 **Sec. 4. Transfer.** Upon application from the Board of Trustees  
of the University of Maine System to the Public Utilities  
34 Commission, the commission shall order the National Exchange  
Carrier Association to transfer \$500,000 from the unexpended  
36 balance of the telecommunications education access fund no later  
than June 30, 2002 and \$500,000 no later than June 30, 2003 to  
38 the University of Maine System which must use the funds to  
provide for the infrastructure needs to create a digital library  
40 that is accessible statewide.

42 **Sec. 5 Appropriations and allocations.** The following  
appropriations and allocations are made.

44 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM,**  
46 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

48 **Educational and General Activities -**  
**University of Maine System**

50

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2 New Initiative: Provides funds to create a digital library to  
3 meet the educational, research, business and economic needs of  
4 Maine. The funds will provide for information resources in  
5 digital form, such as books, scholarly journals, publicly  
6 accessible Internet sites, databases, electronic archives and  
7 other information sources. The Maine State Library and the  
8 Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine will  
9 cooperatively provide access technology as well as licensing  
10 agreements to acquire publicly available databases.

11	<b>Other Special Revenue Funds</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>
12	All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000

13 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
14 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

15 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
16 summary the following:  
17

20 **FISCAL NOTE**

21		<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>
22			
23	<b>APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS</b>		
24			
25	Other Funds	\$500,000	\$500,000
26			
27			

28 This bill includes an Other Special Revenue Funds allocation  
29 of \$500,000 in fiscal year 2001-02 and \$500,000 in fiscal year  
30 2002-03 for the University of Maine System to create a digital  
31 library. The amendment also instructs the Public Utilities  
32 Commission to order the National Exchange Carrier Association to  
33 transfer \$500,000 by June 30, 2002 and \$500,000 by June 30, 2003  
34 from the unexpended balance of the telecommunications education  
35 access fund to the University of Maine System for the  
36 infrastructure needs associated with the creation of a digital  
37 library.'

40 **SUMMARY**

41 This amendment requires the Public Utilities Commission to  
42 order the National Exchange Carrier Association to transfer funds  
43 from the telecommunications education access fund to the  
44 University of Maine System for the infrastructure needs  
45 associated with creating a digital library. This amendment also  
46 makes changes to the provisions of law that address the uses and  
47 guidelines for the telecommunications education access fund. It  
48 also adds an appropriation and fiscal note to the bill.  
49  
50

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