

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R/S

L.D. 1919

DATE: 4-28-04

(Filing No. S-556)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
121ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "R" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1420, L.D. 1919, Bill, "An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2004 and June 30, 2005"

Amend the amendment by inserting after Part EEEE and before the emergency clause the following:

PART FFFF

Sec. FFFF-1. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 409, §2, is amended to read:

6. **Coordination with federal funds.** Qualified Except as provided in paragraph A, qualified schools and qualified libraries shall apply for any federal discounts available pursuant to the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The level of discount, pursuant to subsection 4, is determined by the commission.

A. A qualified library is not required to apply for a federal discount pursuant to the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 if the library determines that satisfying conditions for receiving that discount would substantially compromise the library's standards or mission. If the qualified library does not receive a federal discount as a result of a determination made in accordance with this paragraph, the commission shall establish an enhanced level of discount pursuant to subsection 4 to ensure the library is not substantially disadvantaged by that determination. The commission shall establish a level of discount that mitigates, to the maximum extent the commission determines appropriate, the financial impact on the library resulting from its not receiving the federal discount.'

SENATE AMENDMENT

R. 018

SENATE AMENDMENT "R" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1420,
L.D. 1919

2 Further amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering
any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read
consecutively.

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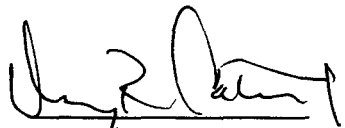
SUMMARY

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This amendment directs the Public Utilities Commission, when
determining the level of financial assistance to be provided from
the Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund to qualified
libraries, to mitigate the impact of lost federal funding in
those cases in which libraries have determined they could not
meet conditions for receiving the federal funding without
substantially compromising their standards or missions.

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SPONSORED BY: 
(Senator CATHCART)

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COUNTY: Penobscot

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

SENATE AMENDMENT

LR

Approved: 04/27/04 *MAC*

**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**



LD 1919

An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2004 and June 30, 2005

LR 2833(61)

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment 'K' to Committee Amendment "A"

Sponsor: Sen. Cathcart

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Increased expenditures from Maine Telecommunications Education Access Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This amendment will have no net effect on General Fund appropriations and revenue and a balanced budget is maintained for the 2004-2005 biennium.

This amendment may result in increased expenditures from the Maine Telecommunications Access Fund which currently collects funds from interstate telephone carriers and makes expenditures to benefit schools and libraries as directed by the Public Utilities Commission. The potential increase in expenditures could be as high as \$300,000 annually and will depend on the number of libraries affected and whether the Public Utilities Commission will compensate for the entire amount of the federal discount. The Commission has indicated that the cost may be absorbed within the fund or may require adjustments to other aspects of the program or changes to services offered to both schools and libraries.