

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1979 to June 15, 1979

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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Kennebec Journal  
Augusta, Maine  
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**PUBLIC LAWS**  
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Sec. 19. 25 MRSA c. 319, as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 20. 30 MRSA c. 226, as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 21. 30 MRSA § 3903 is repealed.

Sec. 22. 32 MRSA c. 67, as amended, is repealed.

Effective September 14, 1979

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## CHAPTER 546

S. P. 152 — L. D. 329

### AN ACT Concerning Telecommunications for the Deaf.

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

Whereas, deaf and hearing impaired people must use teletypewriters in order to make telephone calls; and

Whereas, the only means for deaf and hearing impaired persons to engage in telephone communications with nondeaf persons is through a teletypewriter-vocal telephone relay service; and

Whereas, the telephone relay services presently provided in Bangor, Lewiston and Portland are in jeopardy and will lose their funding on March 31, 1979; and

Whereas, without telephone relay services deaf and hearing impaired people will lack a primary means of obtaining fire, police, medical and other emergency services, obtaining information about and access to government programs and services and communicating generally with the rest of society; 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. 22 MRSA c. 961 is enacted to read:

### CHAPTER 961

### DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS

§ 3601. General provisions

1. Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms shall have the following meanings.

A. "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

B. "Telephone relay service" means a service transmitting messages and information between a person using standard telephone equipment for spoken communications and a deaf or hearing impaired person using teletypewriter equipment in conjunction with standard telephone equipment for communications in a written form.

C. "Teletypewriter" means a teletypewriter and other telecommunications equipment used by deaf and hearing impaired people to conduct telephone communications.

D. "Teletypewriter system" means the network of teletypewriter equipment used for telephone communications to or by deaf or hearing impaired persons who must rely on teletypewriter equipment in order to engage in telephone communications.

2. Telephone relay services. The Department of Human Services shall administer a statewide program to provide telephone relay services for deaf and hearing impaired persons who must rely on teletypewriter equipment for telephone communications. The program shall, to the extent possible, provide for 24-hour emergency relay services.

3. Teletypewriter system. The department shall consult with appropriate agencies and organizations serving the deaf community concerning the needs of the teletypewriter system. To the extent that funds are available, the department shall take such steps as may be necessary to preserve and maintain a viable teletypewriter system for use by the deaf population in Maine, including, but not limited to, providing for repair services and equipment for loaning to persons whose teletypewriter equipment is being repaired.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1979-80	1980-81
HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
All Other	\$13,500	\$ 8,000

Of the amount appropriated for 1979-80, \$5,000 is intended to be used for the costs of maintenance, repair and training.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective June 25, 1979

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## CHAPTER 547

H. P. 944 — L. D. 1174

### AN ACT to Assist in the Use of Foreign Trade Zones.

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

Whereas, several areas within the State are eligible under federal and state legislation to establish foreign trade zones; and

Whereas, the establishment of these zones will benefit both the nearby communities and the State as a whole in the resulting expansion of employment and business activity; and

Whereas, state assistance will greatly assist in the use of these zones and passage of this Act will provide this assistance; 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. 5 MRSA § 7002, sub-§ 2, ¶ H is enacted to read:

**H. The director shall make grants for market development from appropriations therefor to any municipality or group of municipalities which have received a grant of authority from the Federal Government to establish a foreign trade zone, provided that:**

- (1) No municipality or group of municipalities shall be granted amounts totaling more than \$10,000 under this chapter; and
- (2) The municipality or group of municipalities shall, during the state fiscal year during which any grant expenditure is made, expend from its own appropriated funds a matching amount, equal to or greater than the amount expended from the grant, for market development. "Market development" shall mean any activity to encourage use of the trade zone.