

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

H.P. 291 - L.D. 382

An Act To Fund Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Persons at the
Maine State Library

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

Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §9 is enacted to read:

§9. Blind and Visually Impaired News Access Fund

The Blind and Visually Impaired News Access Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established as a dedicated fund within the Maine State Library to be used to provide access to a news service provided by a national federation for blind and visually impaired persons. The fund is nonlapsing. The fund receives money transferred by the Public Utilities Commission from the state universal service fund pursuant to Title 35-A, section 7104, subsection 9. The Maine State Library may accept gifts or grants, including, but not limited to, federal grants, for the purposes of this section. Funds transferred from the state universal service fund pursuant to Title 35-A, section 7104, subsection 9 and all gifts and grants and authorized appropriations must be deposited in the fund.

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §7104, sub-§9 is enacted to read:

9. **Blind and Visually Impaired News Access Fund.** The commission shall annually transfer \$40,000 from a state universal service fund established pursuant to this section to the Blind and Visually Impaired News Access Fund established under Title 27, section 9.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

LIBRARY, MAINE STATE

Blind and Visually Impaired News Access Fund N292

Initiative: Allocates ongoing funds to support access to the National Federation of the Blind's news network for blind and visually impaired persons.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2019-20	2020-21
All Other	\$40,000	\$40,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$40,000</u>	<u>\$40,000</u>