

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2918

AN ACT

To provide access to newspapers for blind or other persons
with disabilities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Free Newspaper Ac-
5 cess for Blind and Other Persons with Disabilities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM.**

2 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Librarian of Congress
4 is authorized, subject to the availability of appro-
5 priations, to pay telecommunications costs for blind
6 and other persons with disabilities to have interstate
7 free access to electronic editions of periodicals and
8 newspapers, disseminated in specialized audio and
9 electronic text formats and available contempora-
10 neously with their print editions, from a multi-State
11 nonprofit source described in paragraph (2).

12 (2) MULTI-STATE NONPROFIT SOURCE.—The
13 multi-State nonprofit source referred to in para-
14 graph (1) shall be an entity that obtains content
15 from publishers for free distribution of 1 or more
16 periodicals or newspapers to blind and other persons
17 with disabilities in each State in which eligible per-
18 sons receive books and other publications supplied
19 by the Librarian of Congress under the Act entitled
20 “An Act to provide books for the adult blind”, ap-
21 proved March 3, 1931 (2 U.S.C. 135a).

22 (b) DEFINITION OF BLIND AND OTHER PERSONS
23 WITH DISABILITIES.—In this section, the term “blind and
24 other persons with disabilities” means individuals who are
25 eligible or who may qualify, in accordance with the Act
26 entitled “An Act to provide books for the adult blind”,

1 approved March 3, 1931 (2 U.S.C. 135a), to receive books
2 and other publications produced in specialized formats.

3 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Li-
5 brary of Congress to carry out this Act \$750,000 for fiscal
6 year 2007 and such sums as may be necessary for each
7 of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011.

 Passed the Senate July 11, 2006.

Attest:

Secretary.

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