7-26-1989

Library Services and Construction Act (1988-1991): Correspondence 02

Robert D. Reischauer

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July 26, 1989

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman
Committee on Labor and Human Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the attached cost estimate for S. 1291, the Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1989, as ordered reported by the Committee on Labor and Human Resources on July 20, 1989.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Deborah Kalcevic (226-2820).

Sincerely,

Robert D. Reischauer

Attachment

cc: Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
Ranking Minority Member
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE
July 26, 1989

1. BILL NUMBER: S. 1291


3. BILL STATUS:

As ordered reported from the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, July 20, 1989.

4. BILL PURPOSE:

The primary purpose of this bill is to amend and extend the authorization for appropriations for the federal grant programs included in the Library Services and Construction Act. The authorizations are extended from 1990 through 1994.

5. ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:

(by fiscal years, in millions of dollars)

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<td>Estimated Authorization Levels:</td>
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<td>.5</td>
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<td>.6</td>
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<td>210.2</td>
<td>218.9</td>
<td>227.8</td>
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<td>Total Estimated Outlays</td>
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<td>145.9</td>
<td>210.5</td>
<td>219.3</td>
<td>228.2</td>
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</table>

Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

The costs of this bill fall in Function 500.

Basis of Estimate

The cost estimate of S. 1291, the Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1989, reflects the new and extended authorization levels for the library programs. The 1990 authorization levels for all of the programs are those specified in the bill. The 1991 through 1994 authorization levels are authorized at such sums as may be necessary. The estimate of these outyears levels reflect the 1990 stated level adjusted for inflation.

Estimated total outlays assume that the authorized levels are fully funded at the beginning of the fiscal year. Estimated outlays reflect current spending patterns.
6. ESTIMATED COST TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Approximately 98 percent of the federal funds for public library services, public library construction, and interlibrary cooperation grants are basic grants to states. These grants are distributed to the states by a formula based on total resident population.

In S. 1291, the public library services state grants are authorized at $98 million for 1990; an increase of $19 million over the 1989 appropriation level. These grants require state and local governments to match federal dollars at a level ranging from 33 percent of total services costs to 66 percent of total costs depending on the state's per capita income. The public library construction grants are authorized at $54 million in 1990; a $32 million increase over the 1989 appropriations. These grants require that state and local governments pay half of the cost of each construction project. The interlibrary cooperation grants have no federal funds matching requirements.

The foreign language material grants, library literacy grants, and evaluation and assessment grants are all awarded on a competitive basis. Local libraries and state libraries may apply for these grants. There are no federal funds matching requirements.

7. ESTIMATE COMPARISON: None.

8. PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE: None.

9. ESTIMATE PREPARED BY: Deborah Kalcevic (226-2820).

10. ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

James L. Blum
Assistant Director
for Budget Analysis