

2016

Library Services and Construction Act: Reauthorization (1989-1994): Report 03

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_I_51

Recommended Citation

"Library Services and Construction Act: Reauthorization (1989-1994): Report 03" (2016). *Library Services and Construction Act: Reauthorization (1989-1994)*. Paper 20.
http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_I_51/20

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Education: National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, Subject Files I (1973-1996) at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Library Services and Construction Act: Reauthorization (1989-1994) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT

A Proposed Reinvention of the Library Services and Construction Act

HIGHLIGHTS:

- o Consolidates by reducing eight titles to two;
- o Streamlines and simplifies administration of program;
- o Sharpens the focus to two key priorities for libraries:
 - Information access through technology, and
 - Information empowerment through special services;
- o Joins states with federal government as partners for change and implementers of equity;
- o Increases accountability and evaluation;
- o Increases flexibility at state and local levels; and
- o Emphasizes library as self-help institution and community partner in lifelong learning and literacy, economic development, health information, etc.

PURPOSE:

1. Stimulate excellence and promote equity, and promote lifelong access to learning and information resources in all types of libraries;
2. Combine federal stimulus to improvement and innovation in library services with state and local support, with cooperative programs with other agencies, and with public/private sector partnerships; and
3. Establish national library service goals for 21st century.

TITLE I, PART A, INFORMATION ACCESS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Provide for the improvement of library services so that all people have convenient and appropriate access to information delivered by libraries through new and emerging technologies.

Projects shall involve (1) organization, access, and delivery of information; and/or (2) lifelong learning, and workforce and economic development; and/or (3) support of technology infrastructure. Priorities be specified in the state plan.

TITLE I, PART B, INFORMATION EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SPECIAL SERVICES

Provide for the improvement of library and information services targeted to those of all ages and cultures who have difficulty getting to a library, who need special materials or services, or who would benefit from outreach services for equity of access to library services and information technologies, including children (from birth through age 17) living below the federal poverty level.

Projects shall involve (1) increasing literacy and lifelong learning; and/or (2) serving the nation's diversity; and/or (3) serving people in rural and urban areas; and/or (4) supporting special services. Priorities to be specified in the state plan.

Services for children in poverty are emphasized within each state through a Part B setaside. The amount is determined by the number of children below the federal poverty level -- \$1.50 for every preschooler (birth through age 5), and \$1.00 for every school-age child (ages 6 through 17). The per-child allocation is ratably increased or decreased if Part B appropriations are increased or decreased by more than 10 percent.

Funds are distributed to public libraries on a per-capita basis to enhance service to eligible children. For locations where per-capita aid would be too little to be effective, funds may be aggregated by the state library agency for enhancing service to eligible children.

AUTHORIZATION LEVELS

Part A, \$250 million, such sums for next four years.

Part B, \$250 million, such sums for next four years.

ALLOCATION MECHANISM

Minimum allotment to states, plus allocation on population ratio basis. Setaside for outlying territories. Setaside for Indian tribes and Hawaiian natives. Special Part B provision for children in poverty. Up to 6 percent or \$50,000, whichever is greater, of total funds received by each state may be used for administration and evaluation of program. Remainder of state allotment may be used for statewide services and subgrants to public libraries, other types of libraries and library consortia, or library linkages with other partners, in order to carry out state plans.

TITLE II, GENERAL PROVISIONS

- o Specifies state matching and maintenance of effort requirements;
- o Simplifies and updates required state plan;
- o Requires wide consultation in state planning; requires state advisory council;
- o Requires state-defined performance goals and performance indicators;
- o Requires state-level evaluation of funded activities;
- o Sets requirements for library services for Indian Tribes and Hawaiian Natives;
- o Protects state and local initiative and responsibility in the conduct of library services;
- o Specifies administration of act by Office of Library Programs in Department of Education.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND EVALUATION

Provisions for increased accountability and improved evaluation are geared to national library service goals for the 21st century. Every person in America will be served by a library that:

- A. Provides all users access to information through regional, state, national and international electronic networks;
- B. Contributes to lifelong learning, to a productive workforce, and to economic development by providing resources and services designed to meet local community needs;
- C. Provides a full range of resources and programs to develop reading and critical thinking skills for children and ensure a readiness to learn;
- D. Provides targeted services to people of diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, to people who have disabilities, and to those with limited functional literacy or information skills; and
- E. Provides adequate facilities, staff, collections, hours of operation, and electronic access to information.

January 18, 1995

This document summarizes a proposed bill developed by an ad hoc inter-association task force, with representatives from a wide range of library organizations and interests, to implement policy directions agreed to by parent bodies of task force members, and for consideration by Congress.

Task force representatives include:

American Library Association Committee on Legislation

Ad Hoc Subcommittee on LSCA Reauthorization

Jan Moltzan, Joan Ress Reeves (co-chairs)

Thomas Alford, E. J. Josey

Carol Henderson, Mary Costabile

ALA Washington Office staff liaisons

Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies

(a division of ALA), Barbara Will

Chief Officers of State Library Agencies

Sara Parker, Barratt Wilkins

Public Library Association (a division of ALA), Sarah Long

Urban Libraries Council, Eleanor J. Rodger

Sally Frasier or Patrick O'Brien

with participation by

U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

Jeanne Simon, Martha B. Gould, Bobby L. Roberts

For additional information, contact Carol C. Henderson, Executive Director, Washington Office, American Library Association, 110 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, DC, 20002. Phone 202-547-4440; fax 202-547-7363; cch@alawash.org