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Facts About Libraries

Nation: 86,000 public, school, and academic libraries.

87 percent of these are elementary and secondary school libraries.

$2.5 billion spent last year to operate them.

Rhode Island:

656 public, school, academic, and special libraries.

75 percent of these are elementary and secondary school libraries.

More than $15,000,000 spent last year to operate them.

Title IV, E.S.E.A., School Libraries, and Instructional Resources.

This program provides services to local school districts to develop, maintain, and stock school libraries. Monies can be used for school libraries, materials, and instructional resources. Each State receives funds based on its proportionate number of school age children. About 10 percent of the benefits of the program go to private school children.

This year, $180 million has been appropriated for this program.

Last year, Rhode Island received $1,755,000 under Title IV. Rhode Island's share of Federal money should increase this year.
LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT

Provides Federal support for public libraries. Has four titles--Title I, library services; Title II, library construction; Title III, interlibrary cooperation projects and Title IV, older reader services. Only Titles I and III have been funded in recent years.

Title I--Library Services--promotes extension and improvement of public library services in areas without such services or with inadequate services--funds used to improve services to handicapped, the poor, the institutionalized--this year, 29,000,000 disadvantaged; 480,000 blind and handicapped; 800,000 prisoners, patients, and other institutionalized will be served by this program.

* This year, appropriations are about $62.5 million.
* Rhode Island should receive about $500,000 under this program.
Title III--Interlibrary Cooperative Support--establishes cooperative library programs involving public libraries with other types of libraries--networking, book loaning--this year 130 projects aimed at cost-saving cooperative programs will be supported.

* This year, appropriations are approximately $5 million.
* Rhode Island should receive about $50,000 under this program.
HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

There are three programs under this act which assist college libraries.

Title II-A--College Library Resources--provides funds to colleges to purchase library materials such as books, periodicals, documents, tapes, etc. Last year 2,250 grants made to colleges.

* $10 million has been appropriated this year.
* Last year, Rhode Island received $52,000 under this program.

Title II-B--Library Career Training--provides funds to train paraprofessionals and professionals in library and information science. Last year, about 200 students were assisted under this program.

* $3 million has been appropriated this year.
* Rhode Island received no funds last year for this program.
Title II-C--Strengthening Research Libraries--aimed at improving and expanding research collections and to encourage sharing.

* Only about 25 grants funded under this program.
* $6 million has been appropriated this year.
* Rhode Island received no funds under this program last year.