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NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION ACT -- LIBRARY TITLE

On July 31 the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare reported out a new bill, S. 2345, to extend and improve the National Defense Education Act, which now replaces S. 1726. The bill adds a new Title X - "Strengthening School Library Resources Needed for Teaching and Learning," which incorporates ALA's proposals for acquisition of college library materials and strengthening school library resources and services.

The text of the report (Senate Report 627) relating to the Library Title is as follows:

"The bill adds a new title captioned as above, part A of which authorizes grants to States for library programs in public elementary and secondary schools, part B contracts with institutions of higher education for the operation of library training institutes, and part C grants to such institutions for the acquisition for library purposes of books, periodicals, documents, and related materials."

Part A -- Library Programs in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

"Section 1001 of the new part A of this title authorizes \$30 million for fiscal 1962 and each of the 3 succeeding years for grants to State educational agencies to assist them in establishing and maintaining programs of library services in public elementary or secondary schools. These programs must be such as will carry out the objectives of the amended act as stated in section 101.

"Section 1002 provides for the reservation of up to 1.6 percent of grant appropriations for allotment to Puerto Rico, the Canal Zone, Guam, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands under section 1108 and for the allotment of the remainder to the States and the District of Columbia on a school-age population basis, with a minimum of \$50,000 to each such State.

"Section 1003 provides for the submittal and approval of State plans under part A. In addition to the State plan requirements in section 1104 (a), the State plan must set forth a program of library service in public elementary and secondary schools under which funds paid to a State from its allotment will be expended solely for projects approved by the State educational agency for (A) acquisition of library materials and library equipment suitable for use in

providing resources for teaching and learning and which will carry out the objectives of the act as stated in section 101, (B) establishment or improvement of local school library supervisory services, (C) minor remodeling of existing library space, (D) the establishment or improvement of State agency supervisory library services, and (E) the administration of the State plan. The State plan would also provide for the establishment of State standards for public elementary and secondary school libraries, set forth principles for determining priority among project applications, and provide an opportunity for a hearing before the State educational agency to any project applicant.

"Section 1004 provides for payments to State educational agencies from their allotments, such payments in fiscal 1962 to equal the amount expended in carrying out the improved State plan, and for fiscal 1963 and each of the next 2 years ~~one-half of the~~ amount so expended.

Part B -- Library Training Institutes

"Section 1011 (part B) authorizes appropriations of \$5 million in fiscal 1962 and \$7.5 million for each of the next 3 years to enable the Commissioner to contract with higher education institutions for the operation of ~~institutes to provide training~~ to improve the qualifications of school librarians or other school library personnel. Individuals attending such institutes who are engaged or preparing to engage in public or private nonprofit elementary and secondary school library work, would receive stipends of \$75 per week of attendance plus \$15 per week for each dependent.

Part C -- Library Grants to Institutions of Higher Education

"Section 1021 of part C authorizes appropriations of \$10 million for fiscal 1962 and each of the next 3 years for grants to institutions of higher education to assist and encourage them in the acquisition for library purposes of books (excluding text books), periodicals, documents, and other related materials, including necessary binding.

"Under section 1022 the Commissioner is authorized, upon application, to make grants to institutions of higher education. The amount which can be thus granted to any such institution for each fiscal year is an amount not exceeding 25 percent of the amount it expended during fiscal 1961 for books, periodicals, documents, and related materials for library purposes, or not less than \$1,000 in the case of an institution providing a 2-year educational program acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree, \$2,500 for an institution providing an educational program for which it awards a bachelor's degree or a more advanced degree, or \$5,000 for an institution providing an educational program for which it awards both bachelor's and advanced degrees.

"To qualify for such grants an institution must furnish proof satisfactory to the Commissioner that it will expend during the fiscal year for which the grant is requested (a) for all

library purposes, an amount not less than it expended for such purposes during fiscal 1961, (b) for books, periodicals, documents, and related materials, an amount not less than it expended for such materials during 1961, and (c) an additional amount at least equal to the amount of the Federal grant, of which at least 50 percent must be expended for library purposes for books, periodicals, documents, and related materials.

"Section 1023 forbids the use of any grant under part C for books, periodicals, documents, and related materials primarily to be used in connection with any part of the program of a divinity school, theological seminary, or other institution or a department or branch of an institution, whose program is for the education of students to prepare them to become ministers of religion or to enter upon some other religious vocation."

The above statement is reproduced from the majority report. Minority views on S. 2345, filed by Senators Barry Goldwater (R., Ariz.) and John G. Tower (R., Tex.) and printed with the Senate Report; include these comments on the Library Title:

"...Without any substantial limitation as to subject matter or area of study, this title provides Federal grants for school and college libraries. The only exclusion, and this applies only to college libraries, is the use of these funds for material of a theological nature or material to be used for religious instruction. Everything else goes. These funds can be used for the purchase of books and materials in every other field of knowledge known to man. If the school or college so decides, not one penny of the Federal money need be spent on library material related to science, mathematics, modern languages, English, or physical fitness, subjects which the act and the bill are specifically designed to strengthen in the interests of national defense."

Copies of the report and the new bill may be requested from your Senators.

The bill faces considerable opposition in the Senate, but a vote is expected before adjournment. Letters to your Senators urging a favorable vote on S. 2345, including the Library Title, are imperative at this time.

In writing them be sure to express special appreciation to the members of the Labor and Public Welfare Committee who supported the Library Title. (Newsletter, February 17, 1961) Thank you letters from constituents are always appreciated but particularly valued when the issue is controversial.

Special letters of thanks should go to Senator Ralph Yarborough (D., Tex.) who sponsored the college library amendment and Senator Jennings Randolph (D., W. Va.) who sponsored the school library amendments.

The House version of the NDEA extension bill is stalled in the Rules Committee. Final and favorable action on an expanded NDEA bill thus seems highly problematical in this session. Even so inclusion of the Library Title in the Senate bill makes it a part of the legislative history of the measure

and this can be important in future legislation. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that Title X remain in the bill when it is passed by the Senate.

LIBRARY SERVICES ACT AND OTHER HEW APPROPRIATIONS

The Labor-HEW Appropriation Bill for Fiscal 1962 (H. R. 7035) was passed by the Senate on Wednesday, August 2. Included was the Library Serv-
~~ices~~ Appropriation of \$7,500,000. Since this figure was also approved by the House earlier, this is the amount which will be in the final bill.

Two items added by the Senate Committee to this Appropriations Bill also have significance for libraries. As stated in the Senate Report (No. 618): "The Committee believes that there is a need for improvement in the Federal Government's services and assistance in the field of education. With the increase recommended over the House allowance, the committee has provided \$100,000 so that the Office may participate in the forthcoming Century 21 Exposition in Seattle, Washington, in order to exhibit modern library services and design;...and not to exceed \$50,000 to permit expansion in the Office staff providing consultation and assistance in library services..."

These two proposed appropriations will be among the items to be considered in the House-Senate Conference resolving differences between the versions of the bill.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

H. R. 8141, the bill introduced by Representative Wayne Hays (D., Ohio) to amend the depository library laws is on the Consent Calendar of the House and is expected to be called up for a vote on August 7.

No action has been taken to date on the companion Senate bill, S. 2029 introduced on June 7 by Senator Frank Lausche (D., Ohio) and now pending in the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

COMMITTEE CHANGES

Please note your list of members of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee (February 17, 1961) to show that Senator John G. Tower (R., Tex.) replaces Senator Everett Dirksen (R., Ill.).