



WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

THE CORONET • 200 C STREET, S.E. • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20003

Volume 16

February 27, 1964

Number 4

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Library Services and Construction Act

President Johnson signed the Library Services and Construction Act on February 11. To date no request for appropriations to implement the new law has been sent from the Bureau of the Budget to the Congress although the Office of Education submitted its estimates of appropriations needed for programs immediately.

In the hearings now being held by the Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations for HEW, on February 26 the Commissioner of Education stated in response to a question by Senator Hill that the Department of HEW had requested for Fiscal 1964 \$20 million for construction plus \$3,205,000 for services. These supplemental funds would amount to an additional \$60,000 for each State for services plus the authorized allotment for construction.

For Fiscal 1965, \$25 million for services and \$20 million for construction was requested. Mr. Keppel indicated this same information was also made a part of the record of hearings held by the House Appropriations Subcommittee currently under way.

Letters to all Members of Congress are a vital necessity at this time urging their help in getting appropriations without delay to implement the new public library bill.

While communications to both House and Senate members will be helpful, the greatest emphasis now needs to be directed to the House of Representatives. The House Appropriations Committee will be the body to act first.

Letters are needed particularly from the 33 States whose Representatives are on the House Appropriations Committee. Correspondence would be especially effective to the members of the HEW Subcommittee on Appropriations whose chairman is John E. Fogarty (D., R.I.). Their names are starred in the following list of the full Committee.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Democrats

Clarence Cannon (Mo.), Chairman		
George H. Mahon (Tex.)	Otto E. Passman (La.)	*John Lesinski (Mich.)
Harry R. Sheppard (Cal.)	Joe L. Evins (Tenn.)	John J. Flynt, Jr. (Ga.)
Albert Thomas (Tex.)	Edward P. Boland (Mass.)	Neal Smith (Iowa)
Michael J. Kirwan (Ohio)	Wm. H. Natcher (Ky.)	Robert N. Giaimo (Conn.)
Jamie L. Whitten (Miss.)	Daniel J. Flood (Pa.)	Julia B. Hansen (Wash.)
George W. Andrews (Ala.)	*Winfield K. Denton (Ind.)	Edward R. Finnegan (Ill.)
John J. Rooney (N.Y.)	Tom Steed (Okla.)	Charles S. Joelson (N.J.)
J. Vaughan Gary (Va.)	Joseph M. Montoya (N.M.)	Joseph P. Addabbo (N.Y.)
*John E. Fogarty (R.I.)	George E. Shipley (Ill.)	John J. McFall (Cal.)
Robert L. F. Sikes (Fla.)	John M. Slack, Jr. (W.Va.)	

(Continued)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
(Continued)

Republicans

Ben F. Jensen (Iowa)	Elford A. Cederberg (Mich.)	Wm. H. Milliken (Pa.)
Walt Horan (Wash.)	Glenard P. Lipscomb (Cal.)	Earl Wilson (Ind.)
Gerald R. Ford (Mich.)	John J. Rhodes (Ariz.)	Odin Langen (Minn.)
Harold C. Ostertag (N.Y.)	John R. Pillion (N.Y.)	Wm. Henry Harrison (Wyo.)
Frank T. Bow (Ohio)	Wm. E. Minshall (Ohio)	Ben Reifel (S.D.)
Charles R. Jonas (N.C.)	*Robert H. Michel (Ill.)	Louis C. Wyman (N.H.)
*Melvin R. Laird (Wis.)	Silvio O. Conte (Mass.)	

Another LSCA Spokesman to Commend

Our apologies to Representative Ralph Harding (D., Idaho) and his constituents for neglecting to list his name among those who spoke in favor of the public library bill during House debate on January 21.

Tax Bill Becomes Law

Official at last, with the President's signature of approval on February 26, is the Revenue Act of 1964 - the largest tax reduction bill in the history of the United States.

Of specific interest to public libraries and library employees are two items:

- 1) The provision for charitable contributions has been liberalized, extending the 30 percent deduction allowance to include public libraries along with the charitable organizations and public institutions which can already benefit from such gifts.
- 2) The child care provision allows bigger child-care deductions in certain cases by working wives, widows and widowers who pay others to care for their dependent children during working hours. Now the rules are liberalized somewhat. The joint-income ceiling under which a working wife is allowed to claim the full child-care deduction is raised to \$6,000 from \$4,500. The maximum deduction remains at \$600 for working wives, widows, and widowers paying for the care of one child. If there are two or more children, the maximum deduction for these taxpayers, including working wives is \$900. ALA had presented testimony supporting both of these provisions.

Funds for College Construction

The supplemental appropriation requested to implement the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963 was transmitted to the House of Representatives on January 21, including the following proposed funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1964:

"For grants, loans, and payments under the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963, \$266,750,000, of which not to exceed \$230,000,000 shall be for grants for construction of academic facilities under title I; \$25,000,000 shall be for grants for construction of graduate academic facilities under title II; and \$10,000,000 shall be for loans for construction of academic facilities under title III."

In addition, the President's Budget for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 1965, sent to Congress on the same day, requests \$464,000,000 for programs under this Act. Of this amount \$230,000,000 is designated for Title I; \$60,000,000 for Title II; and \$169,250,000 for Title III.

Letters from college administrators are needed urging the appropriation of the funds requested in order to get this program under way without delay. According to

the Commissioner's testimony at the Senate hearing, 25 State Commissions have been designated to administer the funds under P.L.88-204.

National Defense Education Act

When the NDEA of 1958 was extended last December for an additional fiscal year through June 30, 1965, several major amendments to the program were authorized. To implement these changes Congress has already appropriated \$31,168,000 in supplemental funds for the student loan program. An additional amount of \$4,090,000 for the fellowship and guidance programs has been requested for Fiscal 1964.

For Fiscal 1965 the Administration has requested \$287,890,000, an increase of \$33,012,000 over the 1964 total estimate.

Of major concern to libraries participating in programs under the NDEA are the appropriation requests for Titles III and VII.

Title III authorizes matching grants to States and loans to non-profit private schools for the acquisition of equipment and minor remodeling in order to strengthen science, mathematics, and foreign language instruction. Amendments under P.L.88-210 expand the eligibility categories to include test-grading equipment and specialized equipment for audio-visual libraries; make eligible new groups of elementary and secondary schools such as laboratory schools and schools for the handicapped; and provide for reallocation of unneeded funds to States which can use them. A total of \$66,600,000 for Title III in 1965 has been requested, which represents an increase of \$18,850,000 due primarily to these amendments.

The language of Title III of the Act was not changed with respect to the question of general reference works but the following significant paragraph appeared in the report of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor following testimony by a witness for the ATPI and the ABPC (Senate Report No. 553 of October 1, 1963):

"The committee further understands the Office of Education has ruled that Federal funds may not be used under Title III for the purpose of general encyclopedias. In the opinion of the committee general reference works are often an important, authoritative, and current source of information on science, mathematics, and modern foreign languages, and should not be ruled out by the Office of Education if they meet the requirements set by State and local school authorities."

It is thought that this expression of Congressional intent and interest may lead the U.S. Office of Education to revise its regulations on this point.

For Title VII, Educational Media Research, the maximum authorization of \$5,000,000 has been requested for research and dissemination of the educational uses of the newer communications media. Eligible for the first time are projects of research and experimentation in more effective utilization of printed and published materials.

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THIRD CLASS MAIL

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323 Library