



WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER



110 MARYLAND AVENUE, N.E. • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002 • TEL. 202-547-4440, TWX 710-822-1976

Please include Box 54 in our address.

ISSN: 0001-1746

Vol. 29

June 1, 1977

No. 7

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Attachment: Proposed LSCA Title V

LSCA Passes Senate

The Senate passed S. 602, the LSCA extension bill, by voice vote on May 20. No amendments were made to the committee bill. A House-Senate conference to reconcile differences between S. 602 and the House-passed LSCA extension bill (HR 3712) is expected to take place shortly after June 6, when the Senate returns from its Memorial Day recess.

The Senate Human Resources Committee's report on the bill (H. Rept. 95-143) provides the rationale behind the two major changes to existing law which direct aid to urban libraries. One is a trigger provision in Title I which will aim 50 percent of the funds over \$60 million to urban libraries. The urban funds will be allocated among the states on an urban per capita basis as explained in the May 10 newsletter. Concerning this provision the committee stated:

The Committee considers this step necessary because libraries are increasingly dependent upon heavily centralized services and material sharing operations from major libraries...An example is needed to illustrate this point. In 1974 the Library of Congress estimated that there were 334 libraries in incorporations of over 100,000 persons. That is out of a total of 8,307 public libraries in the United States. However, these 334 urban libraries, on interlibrary loan, provided 412,410,657 items out of a total of 892,854,268 loaned for the entire year. In other words these few urban libraries, 4 percent of the national total, provided almost 50 percent of the total interlibrary services provided in the country.

The report quotes from ALA and Urban Libraries Council witnesses and says that "on the basis of this expert testimony, the committee concluded that it was necessary to add to the bill a new emphasis to meet these unique and pressing needs of urban libraries."

The second major change is the addition of a new Title V program of discretionary grants to urban libraries. According to the report this title will focus on two population groups. "First, projects will be responsive to States which contain extremely dense populations, but, ...may not have many cities large enough to attract proportionately required Federal assistance. Second, projects carried out pursuant to this new title would be responsive to States experiencing focal concentrations of urban population even though their State-wide densities may be relatively low." The new title, continues the report, "provides a flexible, discretionary yet urban-focused authority to enable the Commissioner to make grants to areas which, for particular demographic reasons, may not receive the aid in titles I through IV, which meets their particular needs." (See attachment for text of the new title V.)

ACTION NEEDED. The House-passed LSCA extension bill (HR 3712) contains only one amendment providing that administrative costs must be matched by the states from funds other than federal monies. It contains no additional provision for urban libraries as does S. 602. Contact your Representatives and Senators now to urge that the conference version of the bill retain special help for sorely-pressed urban libraries. Members of the conference team are likely to be those on the House Select Education Subcommittee and the Senate Education, Arts, and the Humanities Subcommittee plus the respective chairmen and ranking minority members of the full committees (see lists attached to February 28 newsletter). Legislators with a rural orientation particularly need to be convinced that helping urban libraries will help their constituents as well. Contact your lawmakers now since the conference may take place the week of June 6.

CETA Extension

The Senate on May 25 passed a simple one-year extension of all titles of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). The House had earlier passed the measure on March 29. Differences between the two versions are slight, but the bill has been returned to the House for either approval of the Senate amendments or appointment of conferees. The one-year extension is intended to give the Carter administration time to review the program and make recommendations next year.

Public Works

On May 13 President Carter signed HR 11, amending and extending the Public Works Employment Act. The measure, now PL 95-28, authorizes an additional \$4 billion for a second round of local public works projects, almost all of which will be drawn from applications already on file with the Economic Development Administration.

At a White House Rose Garden ceremony to sign HR 11 and an appropriations bill funding it, the President asked Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps to say a word about the bills. Kreps said that "in addition to creating jobs in the private sector, the local public works legislation will give to the people in the towns and cities throughout the Nation new facilities, new public facilities, libraries, municipal buildings, water treatment plants, which they very much need. And this legacy, this long-term legacy, is as important a part of the legislation as is the job creation."

Regulations governing round II of the local public works program were released by the Economic Development Administration and published in the May 27 Federal Register (pp. 27431-27440). The regulations are effective immediately, but EDA will accept comments on them until June 27. Further information can be obtained from James F. Marten, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Room 7009, Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 377-5441.

Appropriations, FY 1977 Supplemental

On May 13 the President signed the FY 1977 economic stimulus supplemental (HR 4876, PL 95-29) providing \$4 billion in funds for the Public Works Employment Act. The measure also includes funds for revenue sharing, antirecession financial assistance for state and local governments, and CETA funds. The CETA titles II and VI public service employment programs receive FY 1977 funding plus advance funding for FY 1978.

Appropriations, FY 1978

The Senate Labor-HEW Appropriations Subcommittee marked up the FY 1978 Labor-HEW appropriations bill on May 26, including start-up funds of \$7 million for the new HEA II-C research libraries program and an increase in ESEA IV-B funds for school library resources, equipment, and guidance and counseling to \$180 million. Senators to thank for these two increases over the House Committee amounts are Senator Thomas Eagleton (D.-Mo.) for HEA II-C and Sen. Charles Mathias (R.-Md.) for ESEA IV-B. Both had sufficient cosponsors to carry the amendments. On the same date the House full Appropriations Committee marked up its version of the FY '78 Labor-HEW appropriations bill, making no changes in the amounts for library programs recommended by its Labor-HEW Appropriations Subcommittee. Neither the House committee nor the Senate subcommittee raised LSCA above the budget amounts.

No numbers have been assigned yet to either the House or the Senate appropriations bills, nor has a date been set for consideration of the Senate bill by the full Appropriations Committee. However, both bills are scheduled to come to the floor in the latter part of June. A comparison of the House committee and Senate subcommittee action with last year's appropriation and the budget recommendation is shown below.

	FY 1977 <u>Appropriation</u>	FY 1978 <u>Budget</u>	FY 1978 <u>House Committee</u>	FY 1978 <u>Senate Subcommittee</u>
ESEA IV-B (school lib. resources)	\$154,330,000*	\$154,330,000*	\$160,000,000*	\$180,000,000*
HEA II-A (college lib. resources)	9,975,000	9,975,000	9,975,000	9,975,000
II-B (training)	2,000,000	500,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
II-B (demonstrations)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
II-C (research libs.)	-0-	-0-	3,000,000	7,000,000
VI-A (ed. equip.)	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000
LSCA I (public lib. services)	56,900,000	56,900,000	56,900,000	56,900,000
II (construction)	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
III (inter. lib. coop.)	<u>3,337,000</u>	<u>3,337,000</u>	<u>3,337,000</u>	<u>3,337,000</u>
Total LSCA	\$ <u>60,237,000</u>	\$ <u>60,237,000</u>	\$ <u>60,237,000</u>	\$ <u>60,237,000</u>
Nat'l Commission on Libs. & Infor. Sci.	492,575	563,000	563,000	563,000
Nat'l Library of Med.	27,234,000	28,759,000	28,759,000	28,759,000
Medical Lib. Assistance	8,000,000	7,987,000	7,987,000	7,987,000

*Advance funding for FY 1979.

ESEA Hearings

Hearings on extension of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) began on May 10 before the House Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary, and Vocational Education, chaired by Rep. Carl Perkins (D.-Ky.). Opening with a general overview of ESEA on May 10 and 11, the focus was on such trends as declining achievement, declining enrollment, and changing demographic trends. Three sessions on May 24-26 covered paperwork problems in elementary and secondary education.

Hearings will continue on this major education program through the summer and fall with consolidated programs including ESEA IV-B, school library resources, equipment and guidance and counseling, scheduled for July 26-28 and August 2. The ALA Washington Office is working closely with the American Association of School Librarians in preparation for the late July hearings.

Postal Rates

"Step 6" in the schedule of phased postal rate increases will go into effect July 6. The increases in the rates for magazines, books, and records, and nonprofit mailings range from 10 to 22 percent. Both the library rate and the book rate are affected. The current "Step 5" postal rates and the new "Step 6" rates are shown below:

Phased Postal Rate Increases Effective July 6, 1977

	<u>Current Step 5</u> (in cents)	<u>New Step 6</u> (in cents)
<u>Library Rate</u>		
First pound	9.0	11.0
Each additional pound	4.0	4.0
<u>Book Rate</u>		
First pound		
Single piece	25.0	30.0
5-digit presort	23.9	27.9
3-digit presort	24.2	28.4
Each additional pound		
through 7 pounds	10.0	11.0
Each additional pound	8.0	8.0

Attachment:

New LSCA Title V in S. 602, Senate-passed LSCA Extension Bill

Title V - Urban Library Development Program

Grants to States to improve urban library programs Sec. 501. The Commissioner is authorized to carry out a program of making grants to States which have an approved plan under section 6, and an application approved under section 503 which is consistent with the long-range program and the annual plan submitted under this Act, to enable such States to improve the capability of public libraries in urban areas to undertake innovative, demonstration, and special development projects.

Uses of federal funds Sec. 502. Funds appropriated pursuant to section 504 shall be available for grants to States having applications approved by the Commissioner under section 503. Such grants shall be used--

(1) for special programs of a pilot and demonstration nature designed to improve the quality, availability, accessibility, visibility, and understanding of library services in urban areas; and

(2) for assessment, evaluation, and measurement of the impacts and consequences of such programs, including implications for the coordination of urban libraries with other institutions crucial to the functioning of urban areas.

Application Sec. 503. (a) Any State desiring to receive a grant under this title for any fiscal year shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Commissioner may reasonably require. Each such application shall --

(1) be developed and submitted by the State library administrative agency;

(2) set forth a program for the year submitted under which funds paid to the State will be used, consistent with the long-range program of the State, for the purposes set forth in section 502, and set forth a detailed description of the projects for which assistance under this title is sought; and

(3) set forth assurances that an opportunity will be provided to public libraries throughout the State to be heard in the development of the application.

(b) The Commissioner shall approve applications which meet the requirements of subsection (a) and the following criteria:

(1) The projects described in the application shall serve public libraries in high density population areas.

(2) The State developing and submitting the application is either relatively densely or relatively sparsely populated.

(3) The projects described in the application will aid the State library administrative agency in developing, implementing, and evaluating new urban-focused library services programs.

(4) The findings of, and the experience under, projects described in the application when disseminated will aid all State library administrative agencies in the country in developing, implementing, and evaluating new urban-focused library services programs.

Authorization of appropriations Sec. 504. For the purpose of making grants to States for the improvement of urban library programs under this title, there are authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for the fiscal year 1978, \$25,000,000 for the fiscal year 1979, and for each succeeding fiscal year ending prior to October 1, 1982.