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Appropriations, FY 1978

On June 17, the House passed the Labor-HEW appropriations bill (HR 7555), including funding for major library programs, by a voice vote. The Carter administration had lobbied for cuts in the bill because it exceeded budget recommendations, but in the end did not support amendments to reduce it. An amendment by Rep. Robert Michel (R-Ill.) to cut education programs by \$563.5 million had been defeated in committee by one vote and was also defeated on the floor by a vote of 334 to 72. A comparison of the House action with last year's appropriation and the Senate Labor-HEW Appropriations Subcommittee recommendation is shown below:

	FY 1977	FY 1978	FY 1978
	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>House Action</u>	<u>Senate Subcommittee</u>
<u>Library Services & Construction Act</u>	\$ 60,237,000	\$ 60,237,000	\$ 60,237,000
Title I - Public Library Services	56,900,000	56,900,000	56,900,000
III - Interlibrary Cooperation	3,337,000	3,337,000	3,337,000
<u>Elem. & Sec. Educ. Act Title IV-B</u>	154,330,000*	160,000,000*	180,000,000*
<u>Higher Education Act</u>			
Title II-A - College Lib. Resources	9,975,000	9,975,000	9,975,000
II-B - Training	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
II-B - Demonstrations	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
II-C - Research Libraries	-0-	3,000,000	7,000,000
VI-A - Undergrad Educ. Equip.	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000
<u>Medical Library Assistance Act</u>	8,000,000	7,987,000	7,987,000

*Advance-funded program.

Earlier, the House Appropriations Committee reported the bill (H. Rept. 95-381) without making any changes for library programs from the amounts recommended by the

House Labor-HEW Appropriations Subcommittee. The committee report notes that the increase for ESEA IV-B over the FY 1977 appropriation "is to offset the higher costs of books, equipment, and guidance/counseling services."

Funds for FY 1978 for the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities are provided in the Interior Department appropriations bill (HR 7636, H. Rept. 95-392) which was passed by the House on June 9. The bill provides \$85.5 million each for the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, both of which provide funding opportunities for libraries. These amounts represent an \$8 million increase over the FY 1977 appropriations level. In addition the bill includes \$15 million for NEA and NEH matching grants, and \$36 million for challenge grants, to be split evenly between the two endowments. Libraries are eligible for the NEH challenge grants, which require each federal dollar to be matched by three nonfederal dollars. Senate action on both the Labor-HEW and Interior Department appropriations bills is expected to follow quickly.

CETA Extension

Both houses of Congress have passed and the President signed on June 15 a one-year extension (PL 95-44) of all titles of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). The one amendment to the measure extends through FY 1978 the amendments to Title VI of CETA made by the Emergency Jobs Programs Extension Act of 1976. These amendments provide that each prime sponsor of a public service employment program under Title VI may use its allocation, first to sustain its existing number of public service jobholders under the act, and after that to fill any additional public service jobs with low-income persons unemployed for 15 or more weeks who have been receiving or are ineligible for unemployment compensation, or with welfare recipients. Also 50 percent of the vacancies occurring in Title VI public service jobs by attrition must meet those eligibility requirements, but the remaining 50 percent may be filled under the original Title VI requirements-- 15 days unemployment in areas having seven percent or higher unemployment rates, and 30 days unemployment in other areas.

Career Education

Legislation establishing new career education programs has been introduced in both houses of Congress. The House passed H.R. 7, the Elementary and Secondary Career Education Act of 1977, on April 5. This program makes funds available to state and local educational agencies to implement comprehensive programs of career education in elementary and secondary schools. The underlying purpose is to insure that more emphasis be placed on career awareness, exploration, decision-making, and planning in all instructional programs in the schools.

The report from the Education and Labor Committee accompanying the bill (H. Rept. 95-150) draws a distinction between vocational education or specific job skills, training, and career education, which is "a comprehensive instructional strategy, beginning in the early elementary grades and extending into the adult years, providing people with awareness of the world of work, with a broad orientation to various occupations that exist in society, with guidance and counseling to aid in their own career decision-making, with assistance in methods of securing jobs, and with positive attitudes toward work."

The bill calls for a short-term federal investment which will decline over the five-year period of the act. Authorization levels are \$24 million for the

first year, \$100 million for the second, \$75 million for the third, \$50 million for the fourth and \$25 million for the fifth. After the fifth year, states and local districts are expected to take over the full costs of career education. The majority of funds would be passed through to local education agencies who could use them for a variety of purposes including purchase of career education materials.

On the Senate side a career education bill, S. 1328, has been introduced by Sen. William Hathaway (D-Maine). Feeling that federal support of career education should not be limited to elementary and secondary schools, Hathaway extends involvement to postsecondary education institutions. His bill also includes authority for demonstration grants, evaluation studies, and information gathering and dissemination functions. A hearing on this bill was held on June 14, and ALA will be submitting a statement for the record pointing out the library implications of any career education program. The administration does not support either bill.

LSCA Extension

The meeting of the House-Senate conference committee on LSCA extension, originally scheduled for the week of June 6, has been postponed until June 21 and 22. The committee must reconcile differences between the House and Senate versions of S. 602, chief of which is the fact that the Senate version includes additional aid for urban public libraries, while the House bill does not.

Postal Rates

Last fall publishers of some scientific and technical journals which charge a cost per page to the authors of articles were notified by the Postal Service that such articles constituted advertising. The result would be higher postal costs for mailing these journals since second-class rates for publications with high content of advertising are higher than those with small amounts of advertising. The increased postal cost would undoubtedly have been passed along to subscribers. However, a Postal Service ruling published in the May 27 Federal Register (pp. 27246-7) excludes articles published in scientific journals from the definition of advertising for postal rate purposes. Such articles will still be considered advertising for purposes of disclosure, and must be so labeled on the first page of the article.

On the Congressional front, Rep. James Hanley (D-N.Y.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Postal Operations and Services, has introduced HR 7700, the Postal Service Act of 1977, as a vehicle for discussion at hearings this month before his subcommittee. ALA has been asked to testify at these hearings and also at hearings before the Senate Energy, Nuclear Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee chaired by Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio).

Research Libraries

Proposed regulations implementing the new Title II part C of the Higher Education Act, which authorizes grants to major research libraries, were published in the June 6 Federal Register (pp. 28899-903). Comments on them will be accepted through July 21, 1977, and should be sent to Frank Stevens, Division of Library Programs, Room 3622, ROB-3, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202. Tel. 202-245-9530. Comments received will be considered in the development of final regulations for the program to be published later.

According to the proposed regulations, applicants will be evaluated against a list of elements to determine their significance as a major research library. This will include evidence of the extent to which the library collections (1) make a significant contribution to higher education and research; (2) are broadly based; (3) are recognized as having national or international significance for scholarly research; (4) are of a unique nature and contain material not widely available; and (5) are in substantial demand by researchers and scholars not connected with the applicant institution.

Applicants will also be evaluated on how well their proposed project meets the purpose of the program. The stated purpose is "to promote research and education of higher quality throughout the United States by providing financial assistance to: (a) help major research libraries maintain and strengthen their collections; and (b) assist major research libraries in making their holdings available to individual researchers and scholars outside their primary clientele and to other libraries whose users have need for research materials."

To achieve the "reasonable regional balance" required by the statute, extra points will be given to applications which, if funded, would contribute to a regional balance. For this purpose the country is divided into ten regions-- New England, New York, Middle Atlantic, Southeastern, Southwestern, California, Pacific Northwest, Mountain Plains, Midwest and Pacific Basin. The statute also limits grants to 150 major research libraries. Some multi-year projects may be funded, but none more than three years in length.

Funds may be used for activities supporting the purpose of the program including, but not limited to, acquisition of library materials, binding, cataloging, collection guides, hiring of additional staff, communications with other institutions, distribution of library materials and bibliographic information to users beyond the primary clientele, and equipment and supplies to help in such distribution.

Teacher Centers

In the June 13 Federal Register (pp.30290-93), the Office of Education has published draft regulations to implement the new teacher centers program established by the Education Amendments of 1976 (PL 94-482). Comments on the proposed regulations should be sent by July 13, 1977 to A. Bruce Gaarder, U.S. Office of Education, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Room 5652, Washington, D.C. 20202. In addition public meetings on teacher centers will be held in four cities as follows: Atlanta, June 21; New York City, June 22; San Francisco, June 27; and Chicago, June 29.

The teacher center program is designed to meet the professional needs of local teachers as defined by their teacher center policy boards by providing funds to local educational agencies for planning, establishing, and operating teaching centers, and to institutions of higher education for operating teacher centers. ALA and the American Association of School Librarians will be commenting on these regulations in an effort to make the new program as responsive to the needs of school library/media specialists as is possible within the statutory limits of the program.

White House Conference

The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) issued on June 13 two of three basic documents which signal the official start of planning for the state and territorial conferences which will precede the White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCOLIS). The state and territorial conferences are scheduled to be held between September 15, 1977, and April 30, 1979. The White House Conference is planned for September 1979 in Washington, D.C.

The first document is a memorandum from Al Trezza, NCLIS Executive Director, spelling out the planning and funding decisions reached by the White House Conference Advisory Committee and adopted officially by NCLIS. The memo designates each state/territorial library agency as the entity to receive funding from NCLIS and conduct the pre-White House Conference. According to the memo, state/territorial conferences must be held by April 30, 1979, should last a minimum of two and one-half days, and should take place in the state capital. Delegates to the state conferences should number between 100-400, and two-thirds of the delegates should be lay persons.

The second document provided by NCLIS to state/territorial library agencies is a questionnaire which, when completed and submitted, will constitute the official letter of intent. Upon its approval, twenty percent of the projected grant to each state will be awarded. The third document, a grant proposal, will be issued about July 1, 1977, and will require full program and budget information.

A revision of our four-page fact sheet on the White House Conference, including the new timetable projected by the National Commission and a list of White House Conference Advisory Committee members, is attached to this newsletter. Feel free to reproduce it to inform people in your community about the conference.

attachments

STATUS OF LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO LIBRARIANS 95th Congress, 1st Session Convened January 4, 1977 Chart Date: June 17, 1977	H O U S E					S E N A T E					FINAL ACTION		
	Introduced	Hearings	Reported by Subcommittee	Committee Report Number	Floor Action	Introduced	Hearings	Reported by Subcommittee	Committee Report Number	Floor Action	Conference Report	Final Passage	Public Law
Community Development Block Grant extension	HR 6655	X	X	236	X	HR 6655	X		175	X			
Congressional Budget Reform - Sunset Act	HR 85			239		S 2	X	X					
Copyright Commission (CONTU) extension	HR 4836	X	X	187	X	HR 4836							
Criminal Code Revision	HR 6869					S 1437	X						
Depository libraries - law schools	HR 5352					S 1258							
Education - Career	HR 7	X	X	150	X	S 1328							
Education - Handicapped	HR 6692	X	X	268	X	HR 6692		X	124	X	none	X	
Elem. & Sec. Education Act extension	HR 15												
Emergency Education Assistance Act	HR 5996					S 701	X	X	141				
Federal Employees Grade Retention Benefits	HR 6953					S 1249							
Federal Program Information Act	HR 6257	X	X	341		S 904	X	X	135	X			
Library of Congress Center for the Book	HR 6214	X	X			S 1331							
Lib. Services & Const. Act (LSCA) extension	HR 3712	X	X	97	X	S 602	X	X	143	X			
Lobbying - Disclosure	HR 1180	X											
Medical Library Assistance Act extension	HR 4975	X	X	117	X	HR 4975	X	X	102	X			
National Science Foundation authorization	HR 4991	X	X	98	X	HR 4991	X	X	93	X			
Postal Service Act of 1977	HR 7700	X											
Public Service Employment (CETA) extension	HR 2992	X	X	123	X	HR 2992	X		174	X	none	X	95-44
Public Works Employment extension	HR 11	X	X	20	X	S 427	X	X	38	X	230	X	95-28
Tax Credit - artistic & literary donations	HR 439					S 1384							
<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>													
Economic Stimulus Supplemental FY 1977	HR 4876	X	X	66	X	HR 4876	X	X	58	X	238	X	95-29
Supplemental FY 1977	HR 4877	X	X	68	X	HR 4877	X	X	64	X	166	X	95-26
HUD & Endependent Agencies, FY 1978	HR 7554	X	X	380		HR 7554	X						
Interior & Related Agencies, FY 1978	HR 7636	X	X	392	X	HR 7636	X	X					
Labor-HEW, FY 1978	HR 7555	X	X	381	X	HR 7555	X						
Legislative Branch, FY 1978	none yet	X	X				X						

For bills, reports & laws write: House & Senate Doc. Rms., U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20515 & 20510, respectively.