

American Library Association

Washington Office Newsline

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During Memorial Day Recess, Contact Your Members of Congress; Tell Them to Support Library Funding!

We anticipate that when Congress returns from the Memorial Day recess, the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees in both the House and Senate will meet to consider fiscal year (FY) 2008 funding levels for **several library programs**. The budget resolution passed by Congress provides Education and Related programs with \$9.5 billion over the President's request.

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries (LSL) program provide critical funding for libraries of all kinds nationwide. Only by including \$226.18 million for the LSTA and \$100 million for LSL in the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill will we ensure that library patrons of all ages have sufficient access to library and information services, support recruiting and educating the next generation of librarians, and provide libraries the resources they need to improve literacy skills and academic achievement.

In April, 44 Senators signed on to a letter to the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee supporting \$226.18 million for LSTA and \$100 million for LSL. **If your Senator(s) signed the letter please thank them for their efforts.**

With the additional funding for education, competition is very strong among the many groups seeking federal funding for the upcoming year. Your Member of Congress will be in the district during the Memorial Day Congressional recess from Friday, May 25, to Monday, June 4.

- Members want to meet with constituents. Simply call the district office to either make an appointment or to learn the schedule of town hall meetings.
- Ask them to please support increased funding for federal library programs.
- Also invite your Member of Congress to tour your library to see for themselves the positive contributions federal dollars make to libraries in their communities.

It is important to contact your Member of Congress if they are on the Labor,

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Office for Information

Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
Subcommittee in the House or Senate.

Technology Policy
Rick Weingarten, Director;
Mark Bard, Carrie Lowe,
Kathy Mitchell, Carrie Russell

Members of the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee: Senators Harkin (Chairman), Inouye, Kohl, Murray, Landrieu, Durbin, Reed, Lautenberg, Specter (Ranking Member), Cochran, Gregg, Craig, Hutchison, Stevens, and Shelby.

Members of the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee: Obey (Chairman), Lowey, DeLauro, Jackson, Kennedy, Roybal-Allard, Lee, Udall, Honda, McCollum, Ryan, Walsh (Ranking Member), Regula, Peterson, Weldon, Simpson, Rehberg, and Lewis.

Senators that signed the Dear Colleague Letter: Reed, Collins, Whitehouse, Mikulski, Feingold, Rockefeller, Baucus, Durbin, Menendez, Kohl, Feinstein, Akaka, Schumer, Stabenow, Kennedy, Cantwell, Sanders, Wyden, Lincoln, Boxer, Pryor, Bayh, Snowe, Clinton, Leahy, Dodd, Smith, Kerry, Tester, Lieberman, Brown, Levin, Klobuchar, Biden, Burr, Bingaman, Bill Nelson, Obama, Cardin, Sununu, Casey, Carper, McCaskill, and Landrieu.



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