

1997-98 SESSION
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Senate Committee on
Education(SC-Ed)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

- Appointments ... Appt
- **

- Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule
- **

- Committee Hearings ... CH
- **97hrSC-Ed_Misc_pt20c**

- Committee Reports ... CR
- **

- Executive Sessions ... ES
- **

- Hearing Records ... HR
- **

- Miscellaneous ... Misc
- **

- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
- **

October 16, 1997

Patrick J. Faragher
Washington County Corporation Counsel
Washington County Courthouse
P. O. Box 1986
West Bend, WI 53095-7986

RE: Senate Bill 269

Dear Pat,

Thank you for your correspondence acknowledging the amendments to Senate Bill 269 (SB 269) and indicating additional issues of concern.

You expressed concerns related to the ability of Washington County to exceed the 70% level required in this bill for reimbursing libraries for serving non-residents and the ability of the county to establish requirements or standards for this additional funding.

I have shared your concerns with the Division for Libraries and Community Learning (DLCL) which will be required to administer the provisions in SB 269, and in their opinion Washington County would have the ability, as the bill is currently written, to exceed the 70% level by any amount deemed reasonable by the county.

The 70% level in the opinion of DLCL, is a minimum requirement for funding, and no limitations are placed on funding above this level. There is also nothing in the bill to prevent the county from exceeding the basis on which costs are determined. It would be permissible, for instance, for the county to include capital costs if it so desired.

In regard to shared services, in the opinion of DLCL, the bill permits libraries to voluntarily agree to allow the use of the 70% reimbursement payment to which they are entitled to be used for shared services. Shared services would be services such as a shared library automation system, a shared an delivery system, or shared processing of library materials. There is nothing in the bill which would prevent the county from funding such services with funding above the required 70% level.

As you note, SB 269 provides a procedure for a county to establish "minimum standards of operation" for public libraries in the county. In the opinion of DLCL, this provision does not restrict the county from establishing requirements for receiving or expending funding for public library service which are not related to "minimum standards of operation." Any such requirements would be included in mutually acceptable agreements between the county and individual public libraries.

If you should have any questions in regard to the opinions of DLCL, please contact Larry Nix, Director of Public Library Development, at 608-266-7270.

Again, thank you for contacting me with your concerns. Do not hesitate to contact me in the future when pending legislation is of concern of you.

Sincerely,

Joanne B. Huelsman
11th Senate District

JBH:jjc

cc: Kenneth F. Miller



Rusk, Paul

CALVIN J. POTTER

From: ^{State Senator} Douglas Baker [SMTP:dbaker@kenosha.lib.wi.us]
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 1997 6:48 PM
To: Rusk, Paul
Cc: 'Dimick, Barb'; 'Hamon, Peter'; 'Kuegel, Karen'; 'Nix, Larry'; 'Nelson, Paul'
Subject: SB 269

Wisconsin State Senate

Larry Nix has indicated to me that there may be a problem with SB 269 in Jt Finance because of misunderstandings of and downright opposition to SB 269 by Washington County folks. This may present a problem with Sen. Panzer. Do you think it would be a good strategic move to get to Sen. Panzer with a WLA contingent to try and explain the Bill? I know this is an end run around her own constituents, and that may present a problem. We have yet to locate a pro SB 269 constituent to do the legwork.

Please advise.

Doug Baker, Director
Kenosha Public Library
812 56th Street
PO BOX 1414
Kenosha, WI 53141-1414
dbaker@kenosha.lib.wi.us
PHONE (414) 605-2160 ext. 1024
FAX (414) 605-2170
Chair, Wisconsin Library Association
Library Development and Legislation Committee



OFFICE OF THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Robert Pfeiffer
(414) 768-8195
FAX: (414) 768-8072

September 9, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Potter:


I had an opportunity to attend the hearings by the Senate Committee on Education on August 27, 1997 regarding Senate Bill 259 and 269.

The South Milwaukee Library Board wishes to go on record supporting Senate Bill 259. We do support most of the legislation contained in Senate Bill 269, except for the ability of the county planning committee to set up standards for libraries in that county. We feel that setting standards should be the responsibility of the DLCL. This would ensure uniform standards across the state. The Board is also opposed to the reduction of the expenditure factor in the library system aid formula. Systems have never been fully funded at the old 13% indexing. In the last legislative session the indexing factor was removed. Pardon me for saying so, but the unpredictability of the legislature in funding systems leaves us very leary. We feel that system funding could be seriously damaged if the expenditure factor is reduced.

On another matter, the Board is very concerned that the Milwaukee County Federated Library System is spending \$586,647 of it's funds to pay Milwaukee Public Library for reference service to non resident of Milwaukee County. Of the 30.03% of non City of Milwaukee use of the Central Library, 19.89% is from the suburbs in Milwaukee County and 13.14% is non Milwaukee County use. The Milwaukee County Federated Library System is very short of money to provide basic services to it's members. We feel that some legislation is needed to force Systems in the surrounding areas to contribute to Milwaukee Public Library-Central Library for this reference service. This would free funds for our System to provided services that are much needed.

Thank you again for all of your support and work on the Special Committee on Libraries. The issues are very complex and not easily solved. We do believe that these two bills do help in resolving some of the issues.

Sincerely,


Bob Pfeiffer
Library Director

cc: Senator Richard Grobschmidt
Representative Rosemary Potter
Representative Jeff Plale



5250 East Terrace Drive • Madison, WI 53704-8340
(608) 245-3640 • Fax (608) 245-3646

September 9, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Potter:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Library Association, let me extend to you our sincerest thanks for your efforts on behalf of Wisconsin libraries. We share with you the belief that strong Wisconsin libraries mean a more enlightened citizenry, which in turn makes for a strong Wisconsin. Please let me know how we can help you in the future.

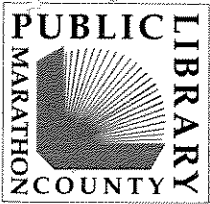
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Douglas Baker'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Douglas Baker, Chair
WLA Library Development and Legislation Committee

DB:rp

c: Paul Nelson
Alice Sturzl



Headquarters Library
300 North 1st Street
Wausau, WI 54403-5473
715-847-5400

LIBRARIES IN: Athens, Edgar, Marathon, Mosinee, Rothschild, Schofield, Spencer, Stratford, Wausau

September 4, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter
P.O. Box 7882
Madison WI 53707

Dear Senator Potter:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify at the Senate Education Committee hearing on August 27 in Madison. It was helpful to us in Marathon County to have our side of the problem heard.

I understand that this is a difficult problem to resolve. Senate Bill 259 with its provision for reimbursement is the best solution for all libraries in the state. I again emphasize that the consolidated county libraries like Marathon County need to be excluded from Section 35.43.52 (1m) in Senate Bill 269 to prevent compounding the problem.

I have enclosed for you a copy of information that we are circulating to Town of McMillan residents to tell them about our services. We do not assess fees to anyone using our library, resident or non-resident.

Thank you again for your time.

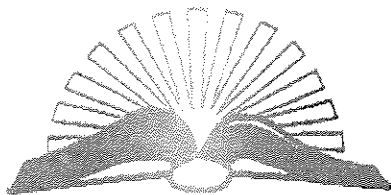
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary J. Bethke".

Mary J. Bethke
Library Director

MARATHON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY WELCOMES YOU!

- We can offer you over 250,000 books, 16,000 cassettes and CD's, 693 magazine subscriptions, branch library and bookmobile service, expert reference librarians, children's programs and best of all....
- No fees or restrictions! All libraries and services are open to you!
- No fee to use the libraries anywhere in the county.
- Dial in to our catalog from home and place holds without being charged by the library. You can use our best-seller feature and place holds directly on the titles you want.
- Next year you will be able to use our computer catalog from the Web!
- Use our Internet available since last year at all branches and Wausau without needing to prove residency.
- Get a library card at no charge and check out books at any library in the county.
- Attend family and children's programs offered at all branches and headquarters library without having to prove residency.
- Use our many CD ROM, online titles and public access computers. Soon more titles will be available at branch libraries through our Dynix network.
- All of this is available to Marathon County residents and as a resident of Marathon County you are assessed at a lower rate for library service than the City of Marshfield collects for their residents.
- We invest our funds in a wide range of choices for our public. At Marathon County Public Library, you can do more than just check out books!
- **Tell your State Legislator listed on the reverse side that you like the library service you get from Marathon County Public Library.**



Milwaukee County Federated Library System

System Office 709 North Eighth St., Milwaukee, WI 53233-2414
VOICE (414) 286-3210 FAX (414) 286-3209 TTY (414) 286-3892

Telefax Message Cover Sheet

The information contained in this facsimile message is privileged and confidential information intended for the use of the individual or entity named below. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please notify us immediately by phone, and return the original message to us at the address above via the U.S. postal service.

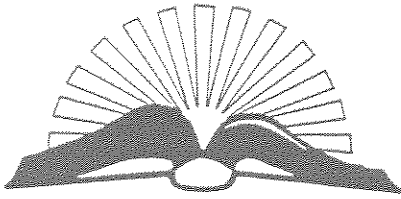
TO: Sen. Cal Potter FAX #: _____

FROM: Supv. Penny Podell FAX #: 414-286-3209

DATE: _____ PAGES: 3 w/cover

TOPIC: SB 259, 269

MESSAGE:



Milwaukee County Federated Library System

System Office 709 North Eighth St., Milwaukee, WI 53233-2414
VOICE (414) 286-3210 FAX (414) 286-3209 TTY (414) 286-3892

August 25, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Potter:

On behalf of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System (MCFLS) Board of Trustees, I would like to thank you for your Committee's prompt attention to Senate Bills 259 and 269. The Legislative Council, Special Committee on Public Libraries produced some very important proposals and I am happy to see them being so deliberately and responsibly reviewed.

I would like to articulate the MCFLS perspective relative to both of the bills in question.

- Senate Bill 259.

Section 3. 43.25.

While MCFLS is pleased to see a proposal concerning the ongoing and difficult issue of funding non-resident borrowing, our member libraries feel strongly that the reimbursement amount in question is inadequate. MCFLS feels that the reimbursement at "actual cost," proposed in Senate Bill 259 for public libraries that make "fewer than 100 loans in any fiscal year," is fair and equitable and that a like reimbursement provision should be applied to those libraries that make more than 100 loans in any fiscal year. Therefore, on behalf of the Milwaukee County Federated Library System Board of Trustees, I would like to register opposition to Senate Bill 259, as proposed. Please keep me informed should the proposed legislation be amended to include full reimbursement, at actual cost, for all libraries.

- Senate Bill 269.

Section 8. 43.11(3)(d)

This provision allows "the plan for library services for a county to include standards for public libraries in the county." The Division for Libraries and Community Learning already promulgates standards for Wisconsin public libraries. Empowering a county library planning committee to initiate its own standards is duplicative, potentially contradictory and unnecessary.

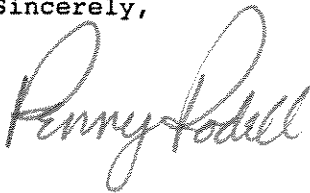
Section 23. 43.24(1)(a)3. and 43.24(1)(a)4.

From the MCFLS perspective, the most important provision in Senate Bill 269 relates to the reduction of the "expenditure factor in the public library system aid formula from 4% to 2% of total operating expenditures by counties and municipalities within the public library system." The Bill further states that this expenditure factor reduction will not occur until "the 2nd calendar year following the first fiscal year that the total amount of state aid appropriated for public library systems equals at least 13% of the total operating expenditures by counties and municipalities for library service."

MCFLS supports the above language only if additional language is included, which provides for the reversion to the old formula, if the 13% indexing, once achieved, is not sustained.

Once again, I would like to note MCFLS appreciation for your ongoing commitment to enhanced public library services for all residents of the state.

Sincerely,



Penny Podell, President
Milwaukee County Federated
Library System

cc: Senate Education Committee
Milwaukee County Legislative Delegation
Roy De La Rosa, Milwaukee County, Intergovernmental Relations
MCFLS Board of Trustees
MCFLS Member Library Directors
Doris Nix, MCFLS Director



**L.E. Phillips Memorial
Public Library**

400 Eau Claire Street
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701
Telephone (715) 839-5002
Fax (715) 839-3822

August 23, 1997

Wisconsin Senate Education Committee
c/o Hon. Cal Potter
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Members of the Senate Education Committee:

The L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library strongly urges your support for passage of Senate Bills 259 and 269, which you are scheduled to consider at public hearings on August 27.

Senate Bill 259 would provide at least some relief for many libraries and their taxpayers who are grossly undercompensated for services they provide to non-residents who live outside their service area. It is a positive step forward.

Senate Bill 269 would require improved reimbursement payments by counties for services their rural residents use at city and village libraries, would improve accountability for regional library systems and would make the formula for distribution of state aids to regional library systems more equitable.

We very much appreciate your help for achieving passage of these important bills which will improve public library services for all of the people of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Mark Morse
Library Director

214 Lakeview Avenue
Lake Mills WI 53551-1429
August 22, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter, Chair
Senate Education Committee
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Potter:

I am unable to attend the Senate Education Committee public hearings on 1997 Senate Bills 259 and 269 on August 27. I ask that you distribute this letter to all committee members and other appropriate people. Thank you.

There is much in these two bills that will benefit citizens of Wisconsin through improved library service. Communication and accountability are evident in many sections.

My concern is with S.B. 269. Section 39.43.58 (6) (c) on pages 22 and 23. There is not clarity about the antecedent for the word "it" in the phrase "before it is sent to the public library system."

Last year I spent many hours as a trustee for library service in Jefferson County (one of four member counties in the Mid-Wisconsin Federated Library System) and chaired an ad hoc study committee about the five library systems to which Jefferson County could belong. I was told the library board letters to the system had not been acknowledged; I was told the system did not receive direct communication of the request for an audit which became a review.

This may help you understand my concern about no provision specifically to give the public library system a copy of the statements its member libraries provide the division of library and community learning. Please either require the libraries to provide a copy of the statement at a particular time, or ask the division to provide a compilation of all the statements for each system in a timely fashion.

Thank you for your work on behalf of library service to all Wisconsin residents.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Heidemann

Carolyn Heidemann
member, Jefferson County Library
Council, 1991-1996
chair, Council ad hoc study com-
mittee about 5 systems to which
Jefferson County could belong,
August-November, 1996

copies: Senator Fitzgerald
Representative Ward
Division of Library and
Community Learning, DPI

25 copies of this letter are enclosed.

8-3-97

Senate Bill 269

To Whom It May Concern:

The Marshfield Teacher's Association would like to go on record in support of the proposed legislation which allows for appeal to the Superintendent of Public Instruction in order for a township to be able to expand its library services with a municipality in another county.

Thank you ,

Jeanine M. Williams

Jeanine M. Williams
President, Marshfield Teacher's Assoc.

Marshfield Area

Chamber of Commerce & Industry

P.O. Box 868

700 S. Central Avenue

Marshfield, WI 54449

Barbara Fleisner

Executive Director

715/384-3454

FAX 715/387-8925

E-mail: macci@wetc.com



Senate Bill 269

August 7, 1997

Mary Dickson
M232 Sugarbush Lane
Marshfield, WI 54449

Dear Mary,

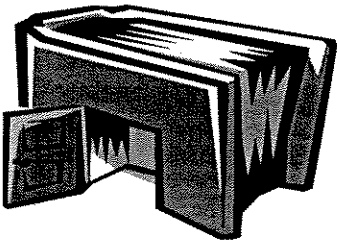
Thank you for stopping by and informing me of pending legislation that may allow a township to participate in library funding of their own choice, not dictated by county boundaries.

Personally, I can understand that it would be most economical and feasible for residents in McMillan Township to have their library needs serviced through the Marshfield Public Library. I am sure the city of Marshfield, likewise, would welcome the financial assistance offered by township of McMillan.

Though my board of directors has not taken an official position on this issue, I can only speak for myself when I say that McMillan Township residents are always welcome in our community, and I hope appropriate legislation is acted upon that will make "doing business with our local library" both economically viable and more productive for your local residents.

Sincerely,

Barb Fleisner
Executive Director



McMillan Library News

Library Issue Alert !!

Senate Bill 269

To: Residents of Town of McMillan
From: McMillan Library Committee

The Wisconsin State Legislative Council Special Committee on Public Libraries has prepared legislation that would allow our town to appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding county disapproval of a joint library.

As you may recall, McMillan Township had asked the County if we could withdraw from the Marathon County Library System, thereby allowing us to join the Marshfield Library. We were turned down by the Marathon County Library and The County Board of Supervisors. This legislation, if passed, would give us the right to appeal the Marathon County decision to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Senate hearing is scheduled for August 13, 1997. There is no date scheduled for the Assembly at this time.

While this legislation works its way through the legal process, there are things we can do to encourage passage.

1. The Town Board of McMillan will send a letter to Senator Potter who chaired the Legislative Council Special Committee on Public Libraries
2. We have endorsements from the Marshfield School Board and The Marshfield Teachers Association.
3. The McMillan Library Committee will send letters to D. Zien and R. Zukowski.
4. In addition to this newsletter, the library committee is preparing letters to be sent around McMillan Township for residents to sign. These letters will be sent to the Senate for the hearing on this legislation.
5. We encourage you to write individual letters to our State Senator Dave Zien, Room 139 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, WI., 53707-7882; and to our State Representative Robert Zukowski, P.O. Box 8953, State Capitol, Madison WI., 53708. Many of you have stories to tell. When you write, be sure to identify the legislation. A sample letter could go like this:

To: State Senator Dave Zien

From: your name, Town of McMillan, Marathon County.

This letter is in regard to the legislation proposed by the Legislative Council Special Committee on Public Libraries. This legislation may provide a way for McMillan Township to withdraw from the Marathon County Library and regain Marshfield Library service. I (or, our family) would like to be able to use the Marshfield Library because 1) I (we) work in Marshfield and it is difficult to get to the Marathon County Library or one of its branches when the libraries are open; 2) our children go to the Marshfield Schools and we would like them to be able to use the same library as children in Marshfield. It would be fairer for them to have equal access to library material. Our children could walk or bike to the Marshfield Library after school, but this is not a possibility with the Marathon County Library; 3) we own a business and/or own property in Marshfield but are unable to use the Marshfield Library because we are McMillan residents; 4) we can use the Marshfield Library if we pay an annual fee, but we resent this because we are already paying for library service in Marathon with our property tax; 5) your personal stories and concerns.

Sincerely, Sign your name.

McMillan Library Committee: Mary Dickson, Charles Radtke, Dorothy Adler

School District of Marshfield

1010 East Fourth Street
Marshfield, Wisconsin 54449
Phone 715 387-1101
FAX 715 387-0133



KEN KRAHN
Superintendent of Schools

BRUCE KING
Assistant Superintendent

Senate Bill 269

August 6, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter and the Legislative Council
Special Committee on Public Libraries:

The Board of Education of the School District of Marshfield would like to take this opportunity to go on record supporting the choice of McMillan Township for library services within their school district.

This unanimous opinion substantiates our position of two years ago when a similar proposal was presented to the Board. We believe it is in the best educational interest of district children to all have equal access to public library materials.

Sincerely,

Ken Krahn
Superintendent of Schools

KK/cl

cc: Senator Dave Zien
Representative Robert Zukowski



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

One East Main Street, Suite 401; P.O. Box 2536; Madison, WI 53701-2536
Telephone (608) 266-1304
Fax (608) 266-3830

DATE: October 6, 1997

TO: SENATOR CALVIN POTTER, CHAIRPERSON, SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE; AND OTHER INTERESTED LEGISLATORS

FROM: Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney

SUBJECT: Senate Amendments 1, 2 and 3 to 1997 Senate Bill 269, Relating to Making Changes in Public Library Laws

This memorandum, prepared at your request, describes the provisions of Senate Amendments 1 and 2 to 1997 Senate Bill 269, relating to making changes in public library laws.

A. BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 269 was introduced on August 5, 1997 by the Joint Legislative Council and referred to the Senate Committee on Education. The Committee held a public hearing on the Bill on August 27, 1997.

At an Executive Session September 24, 1997, the Committee introduced and adopted Senate Amendments 1 and 2 and recommended Senate Bill 269 for passage, as amended. Senate Amendment 3 was introduced by Senator Potter on October 1, 1997.

B. PROVISIONS OF SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 modifies the provision in the original Bill relating to the town appeal of a library board or county board decision disapproving creation of or participation in library.

Under current law, any town that desires to establish a new public library or to participate in a joint library must obtain the approval of the county library board, if one exists, and the county board of supervisors.

The Bill permits a town to appeal to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction a decision of the county library board or the county board of supervisors that disapproves the

participation by the town in a joint library with a municipality in another county. The Bill specifies that if there is such an appeal, the State Superintendent must:

1. Hold a public hearing on the appeal within 60 days of receiving notice of it; and
2. Decide the appeal within 30 days after the adjournment of the public hearing.

The State Superintendent may approve the participation by the town in a joint library with a municipality in another county notwithstanding the disapproval by the county library board or the county board of supervisors.

Senate Amendment 1 modifies this provision to permit a town to appeal to the State Superintendent only when a decision of the county library board or the county board of supervisors "disapproves the participation by the town in a joint library with a municipality in another county." *Senate Amendment 1* also deletes the language regarding the approval of the State Superintendent notwithstanding the disapproval of the county library board or the county board of supervisors; the authority of the State Superintendent *to decide the appeal* within 30 days of the public hearing is sufficient statutory authority.

C. PROVISIONS OF SENATE AMENDMENT 2

1. Investigation of Library Systems

The Bill, as originally drafted, required the Division for Libraries and Community Learning (DLCL) in the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to conduct "an investigation" of a public library system if, at least 30% of the libraries in participating municipalities that include at least 30% of the population of all participating municipalities state that the public library system did not "provide effective leadership" and adequately meet the needs of the library. Under the Bill, if DLCL determines that the public library system did not provide "effective leadership" and adequately meet the needs of libraries participating in the system, it is required to prepare a plan recommending how the public library system can do so in the future. This plan is distributed under the Bill to the public library system board, the boards of all libraries participating in the system and the county boards of all counties participating in the system.

Senate Amendment 2 changes the requirement that DPI conduct "*an investigation*" to require DPI to conduct "*a review*" of a public library system if requested by the requisite number of libraries. (See item 1. of Senate Amendment 2.)

In addition, the requirement that the libraries indicate that the public library system did not "provide effective leadership" is *deleted* from the draft by Senate Amendment 2 as is the requirement that the DLCL must determine that the system did not provide "effective leadership" as part of its review. Therefore, the request and the report is based on whether the public library system adequately meets the needs of the library. That is also the focus of the DLCL determination. (See item 2. of Senate Amendment 2.)

2. Library Standards

The Bill, as originally drafted, permits the plan of library services for a county to include "standards" for public libraries in the county.

Senate Amendment 2 specifies that the plan of library services for a county may include "*minimum standards of operation*" for public libraries in a county. (See item 3. of Senate Amendment 2.)

Under the Bill, the standards adopted as part of the plan of library services for a county take effect if, after a public hearing, they are approved by a county and by at least 80% of the population of participating municipalities in the county.

Senate Amendment 2 provides that the standards take effect only if, after a public hearing, they are approved by the county and by "*at least 50% of the participating municipalities*" in a county that contain at least 80% of the population of participating municipalities in the county. (See item 4. of Senate Amendment 2.)

3. County Support

Except for a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the Bill requires that each county that does not maintain a consolidated public library for the county and that contains residents of municipalities that do not maintain a public library, to pay each public library in the county an amount to reimburse the public library 75% of the cost of providing loans to those county residents.

Senate Amendment 2 reduces this percentage to 70% of the cost. (See item 5. of Senate Amendment 2.)

Senate Amendment 2 makes no other changes in the legislation.

D. PROVISIONS OF SENATE AMENDMENT 3

Senate Bill 269 created s. 43.75, Stats., requiring the convening of a conference by the State Superintendent on issues relating to public library and school technology.

Senate Amendment 3, introduced by Senator Potter, deletes the statutory language requiring the conference. The State Superintendent has already scheduled a conference on the enumerated issues, so it is not necessary to direct the Superintendent in the legislation to convene the conference.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me directly at the Legislative Council Staff offices.

RW:lah:rv:wu;lah

Attachment



5250 East Terrace Drive • Madison, WI 53704-8340
(608) 245-3640 • Fax (608) 245-3646

October 31, 1997

Senator Calvin Potter
Wisconsin Senate
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Potter:

It was a great pleasure to learn today that Senate Bill 269 will be introduced on the Senate Floor this Tuesday. On behalf of the Wisconsin Library Association, I am happy to take this opportunity to express to you and your fellow Senators our wholehearted support for this important measure.

Senate Bill 269 accomplishes several significant objectives for the benefit of Wisconsin citizens. Among these are improvements to sections of Chapter 43, Wisconsin Statutes, that are outdated and the inclusion of measures to improve the working relationship between public library systems and their members. This bill also corrects over a decade of decline in public library system funding by indexing library system funding to 13% of local library expenditures. This recognition of the important role library systems play in the delivery of library services is especially critical at this time when library systems are becoming an ever more vital component in the extension of electronic networks to libraries throughout Wisconsin.

As you know, Wisconsin Library Association membership includes libraries, library staff, library trustees, and friends from all types of libraries in Wisconsin. All these interests share a common purpose to improve and promote library and information services and practice for the people of Wisconsin. We believe library and information services address essential informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs within Wisconsin and deserve legislative support.

Let me urge you and your Senate colleagues to vote "yes" on Senate Bill 269.

Douglas Baker

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Douglas Baker", is written over a large, light-colored scribble or watermark.

Chair, Wisconsin Library Association
Library Development and Legislation Committee



Wisconsin Library Association, Inc.

5250 East Terrace Drive • Madison, WI 53704-8340
(608) 245-3640 • Fax (608) 245-3646

C. Potter

November 3, 1997

The Honorable Cal Potter
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Potter,

The Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) fully supports the passage of Senate Bill 269, which updates and clarifies statutory language relating to public libraries and public library systems. Members of WLA are pleased with the work done by the Legislative Council Special Committee on Public Libraries, from which this bill originated. SB269 corrects over a decade of decline in funding by indexing public library system funding to 13% of local library expenditures. It also offers several measures intended to improve the working relationship between public library systems and their members.

The Wisconsin Library Association urges the passage of Senate Bill 269.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Paul Nelson

Paul Nelson
Vice-President/President-Elect



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

One East Main Street, Suite 401; P.O. Box 2536; Madison, WI 53701-2536
Telephone (608) 266-1304
Fax (608) 266-3830

DATE: September 24, 1997

TO: SENATOR CALVIN POTTER, CHAIRPERSON, SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE; AND OTHER INTERESTED LEGISLATORS

FROM: Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney

SUBJECT: Senate Amendment ___ (LRBa0803/1) to 1997 Senate Bill 269, Relating to Making Changes in Public Library Laws

This memorandum, prepared at your request, describes the provisions of Senate Amendment ___ (LRBa0803/1) (attached) to 1997 Senate Bill 269, relating to making changes in public library laws. A copy of the amendment is attached for reference purposes.

Senate Bill 269 was introduced on August 5, 1997 by the Joint Legislative Council and referred to the Senate Committee on Education. The Committee held a public hearing on the Bill on August 27, 1997.

Senate Amendment ___ (LRBa0803/1) addresses a number of concerns that were raised at the public hearing on the Bill.

The changes in the Bill as originally introduced are described below, by topic.

1. Investigation of Library Systems

The Bill, as originally drafted, required the Division for Libraries and Community Learning (DLCL) in the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to conduct "an investigation" of a public library system if, at least 30% of the libraries in participating municipalities that include at least 30% of the population of all participating municipalities state that the public library system did not "provide effective leadership" and adequately meet the needs of the library. Under the Bill, if DLCL determines that the public library system did not provide "effective leadership" and adequately meet the needs of libraries participating in the system, it is required to prepare a plan recommending how the public library system can do so in the future. This plan is distributed under the Bill to the public library system board, the boards of all libraries participating in the system and the county boards of all counties participating in the system.

The amendment changes the requirement that DPI conduct "*an investigation*" to require instead "*a review*" of a public library system if requested by the requisite number of libraries. (See item 1. of LRBa0803/1.)

In addition, the requirement that the libraries indicate that the public library system did not "provide effective leadership" is *deleted* from the draft as is the requirement that the DLCL must determine that the system did not provide "effective leadership" as part of its review. Therefore, the request and the report is based on whether the public library system adequately meets the needs of the library. That is also the focus of the DLCL determination. (See item 2. of LRBa0803/1.)

2. Library Standards

The Bill, as originally drafted, permits the plan of library services for a county to include "standards" for public libraries in the county.

The amendment specifies that the plan of library services for a county may include "*minimum standards of operation*" for public libraries in a county. (See item 3. of LRBa0803/1.)

Under the Bill, the standards adopted as part of the plan of library services for a county take effect if, after a public hearing, they are approved by a county and by at least 80% of the population of participating municipalities in the county.

The amendment provides that the standards take effect only if, after a public hearing, they are approved by the county and by "*at least 50% of the participating municipalities*" in a county that contain at least 80% of the population of participating municipalities in the county. (See item 4. of LRBa0803/1.)

3. County Support

Except for a county having a population of 500,000 or more, the Bill requires that each county that does not maintain a consolidated public library for the county and that contains residents of municipalities that do not maintain a public library, to pay each public library in the county an amount to reimburse the public library 75% of the cost of providing loans to those county residents.

The amendment reduces this percentage to 70% of the cost. (See item 5. of LRBa0803/1.)

The amendment makes no other changes in the legislation.

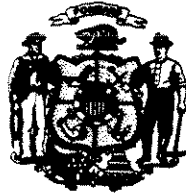
If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me directly at the Legislative Council Staff offices.

RW:lah:rv;lah

Attachment

STATE OF WISCONSIN

David J. Stute
Director



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF

Suite 401
One East Main Street
P.O. Box 2536
Madison, WI 53701-2536
(608) 266-1304
FAX (608) 266-3830

1947-1997

*Our 50th Anniversary
of Service to the Legislature*

February 26, 1997

The Honorable Tommy G. Thompson
Governor of Wisconsin
Room 115 East, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Thompson:

At its February 18, 1997 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Public Libraries, by a unanimous roll call vote, directed me, as Chairperson of the Committee, to indicate to you their strongest desire that your 1997-99 Budget Bill be amended to include the following items relating to public libraries and, in a very significant way, to your proposed TEACH Wisconsin initiative in the budget:

1. Information Technology Block Grants

Provide \$2,500,000 in fiscal year (FY) 1997-98 and \$4,000,000 in FY 1998-99 for information technology block grants to public libraries and systems to purchase networked computer systems, equipment and associated software.

2. Technical Assistance Grants for Public Library Systems

Provide \$1,020,000 in FY 1997-98 and \$1,500,000 in FY 1998-99 for public library systems to provide training programs and additional system staff, or to contract for services, to support public library technology programs. This proposal envisions possible cooperation with cooperative educational service agency (CESA) districts in providing the necessary training and education for library staff.

3. Internet and Video Access

Provide \$716,400 in FY 1997-98 and \$740,000 in FY 1998-99 to equalize the cost of telecommunications services to ensure that all public libraries and systems are able to access a high speed data link for no more than \$250/month for both direct Internet access and two-way video linkages.

The Honorable Tommy G. Thompson
February 26, 1997
Page 2

4. BadgerNet Access for Systems

Provide \$340,000 in FY 1997-98 and \$350,000 in FY 1998-99 for public libraries and systems to link libraries, provide Internet access, and other services through BadgerNet, the state's new telecommunications network.

5. Library Wiring Loan Debt Service

Provide \$25,000 in FY 1997-98 and \$500,000 in FY 1998-99 for library wiring loan debt service.


6. Library Wiring Loans

Provide \$5,000,000 annually for *loans* to public libraries and systems to upgrade electrical and network wiring and equipment, recognizing that many older libraries have insufficient electrical capacity or lack network wiring to support the demands of today's computer networks.

The Special Committee feels that this funding is in keeping with, and a necessary adjunct to, your TEACH proposal since public libraries are, ultimately, one of the most vital elements of that proposal. Wisconsin's public library systems have made tremendous progress over the past decade in improving the coordination of library services and ensuring access to library resources for all the residents of the state. Without a major investment in technology, Wisconsin risks not only losing a leadership position among the states, but more importantly, not being able to provide the type and level of services your proposed program, and the people of this state, require. Many Wisconsin public libraries do not have direct access to the Internet. These libraries have only dial-up access or no access. Only a limited number of libraries report direct access to the Internet with most reporting slow speed dial-up connections and only one workstation. Direct access provides the capability to network the Internet throughout library systems, thereby allowing large numbers of students and citizens to use the Internet for information access and lifelong learning.

The Special Committee requests, and most strongly recommends, that you consider amending the Budget to include all of the public library-related items set forth above. They are vital not only to maintaining the continued excellence of one of the most valued services to the people and students of Wisconsin, but to the success and meaningfulness of your TEACH Wisconsin proposal.

Sincerely,


Senator Calvin Potter, Chairperson
Joint Legislative Council's Special
Committee on Public Libraries

APPENDIX 4

COMMITTEE MATERIALS

Staff Materials

3. Staff Brief 96-2, *Overview of Public Library Laws, Services and Financing in Wisconsin* (September 26, 1996).

4. MEMO NO. 1, *Proposals for Possible Consideration by the Special Committee* (October 24, 1996).

Other Materials

1. Excerpts from Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction document entitled *Wisconsin Division for Libraries and Community Learning, Website on Netscape*.

2. Testimony submitted by Thomas J. Hennen, Jr., Lakeshores Library System Administrator (October 3, 1996).

3. Testimony submitted by Karen Krueger, Director, Hedberg Public Library, Janesville (October 3, 1996).

4. Table, *Two Examples of Non-Resident Use*, submitted by Karen Krueger, Director, Hedberg Public Library, Janesville (October 2, 1996).

5. Testimony submitted by Dale Bartkowiak, President, Wisconsin Library Association; Director, Marshfield Public Library, Marshfield (undated).

6. District Legislative Proposal submitted by SRLAAW Committee Members: Karen Krueger, Chair, Tom Hennen, Milt Mitchell, Bill Wilson and Sharon Winkle (October 1, 1992).

7. Testimony submitted by Judith King, Wisconsin Educational Media Association (October 3, 1996).

8. Testimony submitted by Larry T. Nix, Administrator, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, Department of Public Instruction (DPI) (October 3, 1996).

9. Chart submitted by Larry T. Nix, Administrator, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, DPI (September 1, 1996).

10. Statement submitted by Larry T. Nix, Administrator, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, DPI, *DPI 1997-99 Biennial Budget Request, Decision Item 4803 -- Services to Libraries* (undated).

11. Map, *Wisconsin Public Library Systems*, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, DPI (undated).
12. List submitted by Larry T. Nix, Administrator, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, DPI, *Wisconsin Public Library Systems and Participating Counties With Dates Established and Joined* (undated).
13. Statement submitted by Larry T. Nix, Administrator, DPI, *A Preliminary Shared Vision for Wisconsin Public Library Systems* (June 15, 1995).
14. Memorandum, *Addressing the Problem of Non-Resident Compensation for Library Services*, from John V. Nichols (October 6, 1996).
15. Letter, from David Weinhold, Eastern Shores Library System (October 7, 1996).
16. Letter and attachments, from Ralph Guettinger, Wisconsin Towns Association, Eau Claire County Unit (October 8, 1996).
17. Letter, from Ronald B. McCabe, Library Director, McMillan Memorial Library (October 18, 1996).
18. Letter, from Leo Thomas, Vice President, Lakeshores Library System Board (October 18, 1996).
19. Memorandum, *Issues and Possible Solutions to Current Public Library Problems*, from Peter Hamon (October 20, 1996).
20. Letter, from Donald K. Bulley, to the Legislative Task Force on Public Library Issues (October 15, 1996).
21. Letter, from Richard E. Maslowski, Board President, Milwaukee County Federated Library System (October 21, 1996).
22. *Recommended Statutory Changes of the Division for Libraries and Community Learning, Department of Public Instruction* (October 18, 1996).
23. Memorandum, *Nonresident Use of Wisconsin Public Libraries*, from Alan Zimmerman, Consultant, Public Library System Administration and Finance, Division for Libraries and Community Learning (October 23, 1996).
24. Memorandum, *Hold Harmless Level for State Aid to Public Library Systems*, from Alan Zimmerman, Consultant, Public Library System Administration and Finance, Division for Libraries and Community Learning (October 23, 1996).
25. Letter, from Sharon Winkle, Library Director, Mead Public Library (October 29, 1996).

26. Letter to Attorney General James Doyle, from David Weinhold, Director, Eastern Shores Library System (October 29, 1996).
27. *OPLIN Draft Planning Paper*, submitted by David Weinhold, Director, Eastern Shores Library System (September 1994).
28. Letter, from Scott A. Botcher, City Administrator, City of Delafield (November 6, 1996).
29. Memorandum, *Nonresident Use of Wisconsin Public Libraries - REVISION*, from Alan Zimmerman, Consultant, Public Library System Administration and Finance, Division for Libraries and Community Learning (November 12, 1996).
30. Memorandum, *Response to the request from the Special Committee on Public Libraries for further information on the proposal to amend s. 43.64 (2) Wis. Stats.*, from Alan Zimmerman, Consultant, Public Library System Administration and Finance, Division for Libraries and Community Learning (November 13, 1996).
31. Letter, from Ronald B. McCabe, Library Director, McMillan Memorial Library (November 11, 1996).
32. Excerpts from LIBRARY HI TECH, Volume 14, Number 2-3, 1996, *State of the State Reports: Statewide Library Automation, Connectivity, and Resource Access Initiatives*.
33. Article, "Library tax proposal going to county board" (November 7, 1996).
34. *Legislative Council's Special Committee on Public Libraries*, Division of Technology Management, Department of Administration (November 20, 1996).
35. Facsimile memorandum, *PROPOSAL D5 - FYI*, from Ed Huck and Gail Sumi, Wisconsin Alliance of Cities, and Kathy Bull, League of Wisconsin Municipalities (November 19, 1996).
36. Memorandum, *Response to request for reaction to Proposal #2 in Section D of Public Libraries Memo No. 1, October 24, 1996*, from Larry T. Nix, Assistant State Superintendent, Division for Libraries and Community Learning, DPI (November 20, 1996).
37. Letter, from Jan Beghart, Director, Kohler Public Library, Kohler Public Library Board (undated).
38. Memorandum, from Michael G. Snyder, Milwaukee County Federated Library System (undated).
39. Memorandum, *SRLAAW Visioning/Legislative Meeting - Oct. 31, 1996 & Nov. 1, 1996*, from John V. Nichols (November 19, 1996).

40. Letter, from Mark Morse, Library Director, L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library (November 20, 1996).
41. Letter, from Carol Gibson, System Coordinator, Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (November 29, 1996).
42. Letter, from Timothy Laatsch, Chair, Council on Library and Network Development (December 3, 1996).
43. Draft letter, to Mark D. Bugher, Secretary, Department of Administration (December 4, 1996).
44. Letter, from John Hue, President, Winnefox Library System (December 5, 1996).
45. Memorandum, *WLCS 0080/1--Public Library Standards*, from Kathy Bull, League of Wisconsin Municipalities, and Gail Sumi, Wisconsin Alliance of Cities (December 9, 1996).
46. Memorandum, *WLCS 0061/1--Maintenance of Effort*, from Kathy Bull, Assistant Director, League of Wisconsin Municipalities (December 10, 1996).
47. Memorandum, *Further information on Proposal D5 -- Maintenance of Effort Carry-over*, from Gail Sumi, Intergovernmental Coordinator, Wisconsin Alliance of Cities (December 10, 1996).
48. Memorandum, *Comparisons of State Funding for Public Libraries by State*, from Ruth Hardy, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Bureau (December 9, 1996).
49. Memorandum, from Jan Berg, Library Director, De Forest Public Library (undated).
50. Letter, from Carol Gibson, System Coordinator, Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (January 7, 1997).
51. Letter, from Rolf Wegenke, Ph.D., President, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (January 8, 1997).
52. Memorandum, *Response to the request from the Special Committee on Public Libraries for further information on county reimbursement for use of public libraries by county nonresidents*, from Alan Zimmerman, Consultant, Public Library System Administration and Finance, Division for Libraries and Community Learning (January 8, 1997).
53. Memorandum, from Kristi Williams (January 14, 1997).
54. Memorandum, *Counties and Public Libraries*, from Kathy Markeland, Legislative Associate, Wisconsin Counties Association (January 15, 1997).
55. Letter, from John Hue, President, Winnefox Library System (January 16, 1997).

56. Letter, from Douglas Baker, Director, Kenosha County Library System (January 28, 1997).
57. Letter from Carolyn Heidemann (February 4, 1997).
58. Letter, from Ralph Guettinger, Chairperson, Town of Brunswick (February 12, 1997).
59. Memorandum, *State Incentive Funding for Nonresident Access*, from Peter Hamon, DPI (February 18, 1997).
60. *A Proposal for a Public Library Lending Incentive Aid Program*, from the Wisconsin Library Association's Legislative Task Force (draft February 17, 1997).
61. *INFORM Wisconsin, The Public Library Information Technology Proposal Based Upon Governor Thompson's TEACH Wisconsin Education Technology Initiative* (undated).
62. *TEACH Wisconsin, Governor Thompson's Educational Technology Initiative* (undated).
63. Letter, from Jim Trojanowski, Director, Vaughn Public Library (February 17, 1997).