

2011 -- S 1017

LC02810

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO LIBRARIES - STATE AID TO LIBRARIES

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Nesselbush, Crowley, and E O'Neill

Date Introduced: June 02, 2011

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 29-6-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 29-6 entitled "State Aid to
2 Libraries" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **29-6-3. Eligibility requirements -- Municipalities.** -- (a) To qualify for state aid under
4 section 29-6-2, a city or town shall:

5 (1) Appropriate from local tax revenues an amount not less than the amount appropriated
6 the previous year from local tax revenues and expended for library operating expenses, except in
7 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2010, during which the amount appropriated
8 from local tax revenues is not less than eighty percent (80%) of the amount appropriated from the
9 previous year from local tax revenues and expended for library operating systems and also,
10 except for the city of Pawtucket, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, the amount
11 appropriated from local tax revenues shall be not less than sixty-six percent (66%) of the amount
12 appropriated the previous year from local tax revenues and expended for library operating
13 systems. The appropriation would exclude any state funds received for public library services.
14 Any funds received from the state shall not be used to supplant funds from local tax revenues;

15 (2) In the case of a city or town having more than one free public library therein, submit
16 or cause to be submitted to the office of library and information services a plan for the allotment
17 or division of the proposed state aid among the free public libraries in the city or town. The plan
18 shall be developed by agreement among the free public libraries of the city or town;

19 (3) Submit or cause to be submitted to the office of library and information services

1 evidence that free public libraries in the city or town meet standards of service as set forth in
2 regulations to be made by the chief of library services pursuant to the provisions of chapter 3.1 of
3 this title or that the regulations are inappropriate for that library;

4 (4) Submit or cause to be submitted a plan describing how the public library or libraries
5 plan to address one or more of the priorities established by the office of library and information
6 services.

7 (b) The chief of library services upon application and for cause shown may authorize an
8 annual grant-in-aid under section 29-6-2, or a portion thereof, to a city or town not fully meeting
9 the requirements set forth in paragraphs (1) -- (3) of this subsection.

10 (c) Decisions as to the eligibility of cities and towns for grants-in-aid under this chapter,
11 and the amounts of the grants-in-aid, shall be made by the chief of library services.

12 (d) The chief of library services shall require a preservation plan from any public library
13 which receives an appropriation from the state of Rhode Island which states the preservation
14 needs and objectives of the library for the coming fiscal year. The plan shall include, but not be
15 limited to: condition of materials, assessment of building and environmental controls, and
16 preservation measures to be taken.

17 (e) The chief of library services shall require a disaster preparedness plan from any
18 public library which receives an appropriation from the state of Rhode Island which states the
19 plan of action to be taken in the event of a natural or human made disaster. The plan shall be in
20 accordance with a suggested plan published by the office. The plan shall be submitted no later
21 than January 1, 1993 and shall be updated yearly.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require that the city of Pawtucket for fiscal year 2012 to appropriate from
2 local tax revenues an amount at least 66% of the amount appropriated from the previous years'
3 local tax revenues, to be expended on library operating systems.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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