

On September 25, President Bush signed H.R. 13, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2003 into law (Public Law 108-81). The legislation sets the authorization level for library programs at \$232 million. The FY 2004 Conference Report appropriates \$158,563,000 for LSTA state grants, with \$3,225,000 for library services to Native Americans and Native Hawaiians, \$11,330,000 for national leadership projects, and \$20,000,000 for recruitment of librarians. MLA supports the funding of LSTA at this level or higher.

Background

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) of 1996, a section of the [Museum and Library Services Act](#), promotes access to learning and information resources of all types of libraries for individuals of all ages. Through the legislation, IMLS provides funds to State Library Agencies using a population-based formula. State Libraries may use the appropriation to support statewide initiatives and services; they may also distribute the funds through competitive subgrant competitions or cooperative agreements to public, academic, research, school, and special libraries in their state.

LSTA outlines two broad priorities for this funding. The first is for activities using technology for information sharing between libraries and between libraries and other community services. The second is for programs that make library resources more accessible to urban, rural, or low-income residents, and others who have difficulty using library services.

Each state has a five-year plan outlining its state programs. Michigan's five-year plan can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal_lm_lsta2002-2007_50941_7.pdf These programs support the LSTA goals, which are to:

- Establish or enhance electronic linkages among or between libraries;
- Link libraries electronically with educational, social or information services;
- Help libraries access information through electronic networks;
- Encourage libraries in different areas and different types of libraries to establish consortia and share resources;
- Pay costs for libraries to acquire or share computer systems and telecommunications technologies; and
- Target library and information services to persons who have difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities.

Use of LSTA funds in Michigan:

\$3.6 million of LSTA funding is used for the Michigan eLibrary databases. These databases provide a core set of electronic resources to all libraries. Because these databases are available

in all libraries and to every Michigan resident, this use of LSTA funding benefits all Michigan residents.

In addition, LSTA funding is used to support library programs and projects which are chosen through a competitive grant program. A list of competitive grant recipients for Fiscal Year 2003 may be found at

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal_lm_FY2003_Grantee_detail_for_LM_website_69827_7.doc

LSTA grant recipients for Fiscal Year 2002 may be found at

http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18668_18688-52476--,00.html

LSTA grant recipients for Fiscal Year 2001 may be found at

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal_lm_lstaawards2001_52549_7.pdf

LSTA grant recipients for Fiscal Year 2000 may be found at

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal_lm_lsta2000libs_52572_7.pdf

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Public Policy Committee
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