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## **Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) National Library Legislative Day May 5–6, 2014**

***ALA's Position:* The American Library Association (ALA) asks the U.S. President and the U.S. Congress for funding of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) to be level-funded at \$180.9 million for FY 2015.**

On January 17, 2014, President Obama approved a \$1.1 trillion omnibus spending bill that will fund the federal government for FY 2014 (until September 30, 2014). This legislation partially restores funding to the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) that was dramatically cut in FY 2013 under sequestration. In FY 2014, LSTA was partially restored to \$180.9 million.

President Obama sent his FY2015 budget request to Congress on March 4, 2014. In the proposed budget, the President asks for a \$2.3 million cut, requesting LSTA be funded at \$178.6 million next year. This big hit came to the state-matching program, with slight increases to the set asides for the Native Americans and Hawaiians and the National Leadership grants.

Currently the House and Senate Appropriations Committees are holding hearings and drafting the FY 2015 Appropriations Bill. No word yet when these two committees will mark-up a spending bill for next year, but recently a Dear Colleague Letter was sent to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees asking for support for LSTA. In the House, that letter had 60 signatures and in the Senate a similar letter had 34 signatures.

### **Background:**

LSTA is the primary source of annual funding for libraries in the federal budget. The bulk of this program is a population-based grant funded to each state through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Each state determines how they will allocate their LSTA funds, relying upon this money to provide job searching databases, resume workshops, summer reading projects, and so much more. In addition, LSTA also supports:

- **Native American and Native Hawaiian Library Services:** improves access to library services for Native Americans, Alaska Native Villages, and Native Hawaiians;
- **National Leadership Grants:** supports activities that enhance the quality of library services nationwide and provide coordination between libraries and museums; and,
- **Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarians:** helps develop and promote the next generation of librarians.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR LIBRARY PROGRAMS: FY2015			[In thousands of dollars]		
Agencies and Programs by Appropriations Bill	FY2014 Final	FY2015 President	FY2015 House	FY2015 Senate	FY2015 Final
<b>Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education</b>					
Institute of Museum and Library Services	226,860	226,448			
Library Services and Technology Act	180,909	178,602			
▶Grants to State Library Agencies	154,848	152,501			
▶Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian	10,000	10,000			
▶National Leadership Libraries	12,200	12,232			
▶Native American Library Services	3,861	3,869			
Head Start	8,598,095	8,868,389			
Striving Readers	158,000	0			
Effective Teaching and Learning: Literacy	0	183,700			
Innovative Approaches to Literacy	25,000	0			
ConnectEducators Grants	***	200,000			
Grants to Local Educational Agencies	14,384,802	14,384,802			
Career and Technical Education State Grants	1,117,598	1,117,598			
21st Century Community Learning Centers	1,149,370	1,149,370			
Adult Education and Literacy State Grants	563,955	563,955			
Adult Education National Leadership	13,712	13,712			
Educational Assessment	140,235	132,300			
Educational Research	179,860	190,300			
Educational Statistics	103,060	122,700			
<b>Legislative Branch</b>					
Library of Congress	578,982	593,066	595,000		
▶National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	49,750	50,696	50,429		
Government Printing Office	119,300	128,919	122,584		
▶Congressional Printing and Binding	79,736	85,400	79,736		
▶Superintendent of Documents	31,500	32,171	31,500		
▶GPO Revolving Fund	8,064	11,348	11,348		
<b>Financial Services and General Government</b>					
Electronic Government Fund	16,000	0			
Federal Citizen Services Fund	34,804	53,294			
National Archives and Records Administration	382,130	367,600			
NHPRC Program Grants	4,500	5,000			
<b>Interior and Environment</b>					
National Endowment for the Arts	146,021	146,021			
National Endowment for the Humanities	146,021	146,021			
<b>Agriculture and Rural Development</b>					
Community Facilities Program Grants	17,000	21,000			
Broadband Program Grants	10,372	20,372			
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program Grants	24,323	24,950			