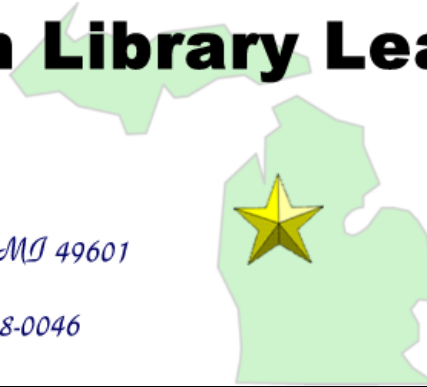


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State Support of Public Libraries

Proposed Model

Pros and Cons

Pros

- 3- year strategic plan
- Basic statewide core services for every public library
- Funding stream for statewide core services
- State Aid to public libraries

Cons

- Library Cooperatives will change from State organization to a 501 (c) (3) organizations (example Michigan Library Constorium).
- What proportion of State Aid funding will be allotted to statewide cores vs public libraries?
- Model funds Statewide Core Services only. Public libraries must use state aid for core service activities.
- No goal to develop public libraries, just provide a generic core statewide service.
- When will academic and school libraries pay their proppotional share?
- Doesn't address the current or future funding needs.
- If core services are free to libraries, small libraries could choose not to take State Aid and skip the state aid requirements and benchmarks.

Statements

- No indication of funding formula or percentages of state aid going to public libraries.
- Gives state aid money directly to the Library of Michigan
- No benchmarks for the statewide core services at the State level, just for public library getting state aid
- Currently Library of Michigan is unable to benchmark MeL databases: No statistics on effectiveness or use by public libraries
- No buy-in from Department of Education for K-12 or higher education for databases, although 2/3 of the subscriptions are academic titles.
- No dedicated funding for cooperatives and legislators are unlikely to create or keep an unfunded unit of government.
- It will be difficult for cooperatives to provide competitive services as a vendor in a world with commercial vendors and MLC who has had the contracts with the Library of Michigan for many services.

- Libraries must sign 3 year contracts with cooperatives not knowing if state aid will be funded.
- Legislators will not support an increase in the Library of Michigan budget and this is what funding statewide programs may look like to legislators.
- What happens if state aid is not sufficient to pay for state wide services?