

#### IV. LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA)

##### B.1 Program – LSTA Reauthorization – information item

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#### Background

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) was just reauthorized as part of the Museum and Library Services Act of 2003. The press release from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) explains that the “updated language calls on IMLS to take an active role in research and data collection and to advise the President and Congress on museum, library, and information services. This Act also clearly recognizes how libraries and museums contribute to a competitive workforce and engaged citizenry. New language focuses on the development of essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skills” such as information communications, and technology literacy, critical thinking; problem solving; creativity; civic literacy; and global awareness.

The changes found below apply specifically to the LSTA grants to states and provide the guidance for the Commission’s expenditure of the Federal LSTA funds. The priorities apply to how the Commission spends the funds as well as our sub-grantees.

#### Museum and Library Services Act of 2010 (S. 3984)

Signed into law December 22, 2010

#### Sec. 9141. Grants to States

##### (a) In general

Of the funds provided to a State library administrative agency under section 9123 of this title, such agency shall expend, either directly or through subgrants or cooperative agreements, at least 96 percent of such funds for -

(1) expanding services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats, in all types of libraries, for individuals of all ages in order to support such individual’s needs for education, life-long learning, workforce development, and digital literacy skills; *(additional wording)*

(2) establishing or enhancing electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries and entities, as described in section 224(b)(6), for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services; *(a rewrite of old #3)*

(3) (A) providing training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership, and advance the delivery of library and information services; and

(B) enhancing efforts to recruit future professionals to the field of library and information services; *(new)*

(4) developing public and private partnerships with other agencies and community-based organizations;

(5) targeting library services to individuals of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to individuals with disabilities, and to individuals with limited functional literacy or information skills;

(6) targeting library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with section 9902(2) of title 42) applicable to a family of the size involved;

(7) developing library services that provide all users access to information through local, State, regional, national, and international collaborations and networks; and (was #2 and read "electronic networks")

(8) carrying out other activities consistent with the purposes set forth in Section 212, as described in the State library administrative agency's plan. (new)

(b) Special rule

Each State library administrative agency receiving funds under this chapter may apportion the funds available for the priorities described in subsection (a) as appropriate to meet the needs of the individual State. (minor word changes, same meaning)