

**V. FEDERAL FUND**

**A.1 IMLS Funding Update – Information Item**

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FY2017 IMLS Funding

From [ALA District Dispatch, May 5, 2017](#):

Seven months past their October 1, 2016 deadline — the start of the Fiscal Year — the U.S. Senate late yesterday approved the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 ([H.R. 244](#)): a \$1.1 trillion omnibus spending package for FY2017. It includes additional funding for libraries. The House approved the spending measure on Wednesday, just two days after it was released early Monday morning. The President is expected to sign the funding measure despite the exclusion of several of his key priorities.

Coming on the heels for the President’s FY2018 “Skinny” budget recommendation to eliminate the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which includes the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), Congress reversed course and added \$1 million funding to IMLS for the remainder of FY 2017. LSTA funding was increased by \$628,000 raising their total level to \$183.6 million. The Grants to States Program and National Leadership Grants were each increased over \$300,000 (raising Grants to States to \$156.1 million and National Leadership to \$13.4 million). Native American Grants (\$4.1 million) and Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian (\$10 million) received level funding.

Note: IMLS staff plans to start the process for completing FY17 LSTA awards during the first week of June, so we don’t yet know what Idaho’s increase will be.

FY2018 IMLS Funding

The deadline for the Senate "Dear Appropriator" letters to support FY2018 funding for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA, \$186.6M) and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL, \$27M) program was extended to May 25<sup>th</sup>. I made follow-up calls to both of our senators. I received no response from Sen. Risch’s office, and this e-mail from Sen. Crapo’s Legislative Correspondent:

“We have taken a look at the LSTA FY2018 funding letter and because it includes a specific funding amount, the Senator will not be signing on. We will, however, weigh in separately with Senate Appropriators to encourage continued, robust funding for LSTA.”

An interesting article on support for IMLS:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/21/support-for-small-agency-with-big-reach-on-trumps-budget-death-row/>

The Corporate Committee for Library Investment <https://www.fundlibraries.com/> (CCLI) is an organization of businesses of all kinds united by the common belief that America's libraries are business-building, job-creating, workforce-preparing engines of the U.S. economy in every corner of the country. CCLI will work to maximize federal funding for the nation's libraries by educating Congress and other federal policymakers about the extraordinary value to businesses and taxpayers of federal investment in America's libraries of all kinds. CCLI sent a [letter](#) to every member of the US Senate urging them to fund critical library programs in FY2018. The website includes a list of supporting resources and of [members](#).