

VI. FEDERAL FUND

B.1 Program – LSTA Reauthorization – Information Item

The following is taken from a January 22, 2019 update from the Institute of Museum and Library Services:

The IMLS reauthorization legislation, S.3530, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018 (MLSA 2018), was signed into law late December. It provides the statutory authority for IMLS programs and activities through Fiscal Year 2025. Much of the legislation reflects our current operations, but we wanted to briefly update you on some changes in the new law that will affect the Grants to States program. As we are in the middle of FY2019, IMLS will implement the new Grants to States programmatic changes for FY2020.

Allotment formula

As we previewed at the fall COSLA meeting, the MLSA 2018 increases the Grants to States allotment base for states and territories. The new base for states will increase from \$680K to \$1M, and the new base for territories will increase from \$60K to \$100K. Any amounts above the base will remain population-driven. The implementation of the new base provisions are dependent upon increases in appropriations, and are to be applied in such a way as to ensure that no state receives a decrease in funds (with the exception of MOE-related adjustments) unless, of course, the agency's overall LSTA appropriation decreases that year. We expect that it will take multiple years for IMLS to fully implement the change in base allotments, as it did with the 2003 base allotment increases from \$340K to \$680K for states and \$40K to \$60K for territories (fully implemented in FY2009). Going forward, we plan to include the year's base as a footnote in the allotment table, for transparency.

There are a few other changes to the legislation that are not as directly related to the Grants to States program. These include:

- a provision that can be used to extend the IMLS director's four-year term for up to an additional year while a new director is identified and confirmed
- IMLS funding may be used for disaster preparedness and disaster response
- codification of Native American libraries eligibility
- an opportunity for professional development grants for museum professionals