

## Report of the Funding Restoration Task Force to the CAL Legislative Committee

Oct 10, 2012

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The TF understands its charge is to further define and refine the funding message, help with promotion, enlist as many others as are needed to reach all audiences, and contact appropriate organizations and individuals that may be allies in seeking support in the legislature.

The Funding Restoration Task Force met by phone in September with Holly Carroll, Cindy Phillips, Jacqueline Murphy, Gene Hainer, and Kim Seter from Seter & Vander Wall participating. Results were presented to the Calk Legislative Committee on Oct 5, 2012.

Through discussion at both meetings, the top choice for the funding is: helping libraries improve literacy efforts. This would address many areas such as digital literacy, early and family literacy, reading readiness preparation, job search and economic improvement 'literacies' and general education efforts covered in higher education and k12.

The current State Grants To Libraries statute which states the purpose is to "... *make grant moneys available to publicly-supported libraries, including public libraries, school libraries, and academic libraries, to enable these institutions to obtain educational resources they would otherwise be unable to afford, to the end that the state will receive the corresponding benefits of a better educated and informed population.*"

### **On 10/3/12 the CAL Legislative Committee took action on the following recommendations of the TF:**

1. Provided feedback on draft talking points/resolutions, and further refined the intent of funding to be for literacy efforts, in keeping with the statutory intent to apply funding to educational resources, as defined in 24-90-401.
2. Decided the amount of the request to be \$1 per capita: \$5.2 million. Following the meeting the State Library provided a sample scenario of how such funding could be distributed to eligible libraries.
3. Secured time on the board agenda, Thursday, 12pm, Torrey's Peak II at the CAL conference to put forth a resolution for restoration of funding to libraries for literacy efforts.
4. Was offered time on Friday, 11:45, to address members with the proposed resolution in the form of a motion:
  - a. *"Do members support the resolution as recommended by the CAL Legislative Committee to seek an appropriation of \$5.2 million through the 2013 Colorado Legislature to fund the existing State Grants to Libraries Act to provide direct state support for educational materials to improve literacy efforts in school, academic, and public libraries".*

### **Items and actions to be considered later:**

1. Expand the Funding Restoration TF to include higher Ed and k12 representation.
2. Extend an official invitation to Sen. Steadman (recommended by Jerry and Ruben as a likely sponsor) after the conference to discuss supporting this as a bill in the 2013 legislature.
3. Determined a House sponsor as soon after the election as possible.
4. Create and distribute promotional and talking points for library staff, boards, and partners.