## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL No. 1903 Session of 1997

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 JOSEPHS, CURRY, GIGLIOTTI, MANDERINO, RAMOS, McCALL AND
 WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 8, 1997

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, OCTOBER 8, 1997

## AN ACT

Amending the act of June 14, 1961 (P.L.324, No.188), entitled "An act relating to the establishment, operation and 3 maintenance of the State Library and public libraries in the Commonwealth; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto; imposing duties upon public officers; providing for State and local cooperation and 7 assistance in the establishment and maintenance of libraries; prescribing penalties; and repealing existing laws, " further 9 providing for definitions, for powers and duties and for the Advisory Council on Library Development; creating library 10 districts; and providing for State aid, for audits, for 11 12 library use and newly established libraries. 13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 14 15 Section 1. Section 102 of the act of June 14, 1961 (P.L.324, No.188), known as The Library Code, is amended by adding definitions to read: 17 18 Section 102. Definitions. -- As used in this act--19 20 (8) "Local Effort." The annual total of all local

- 1 government funding sources, all fund-raising efforts, gifts and
- 2 <u>donations for a local library.</u>
- 3 (9) "System Library." A local library which has elected to
- 4 participate in the district library system in which the library
- 5 is located in accordance with section 211(c).
- 6 (10) "Library System." Two or more local libraries which
- 7 have voluntarily agreed in accordance with section 211(c) to
- 8 coordinate library services and to share in the administrative
- 9 responsibilities of operating a library in accordance with this
- 10 act.
- 11 Section 2. Section 201 of the act is amended by adding a
- 12 paragraph to read:
- 13 Section 201. State Library and State Librarian; Powers and
- 14 Duties. -- The Department of Education shall have the power, and
- 15 its duty shall be--
- 16 \* \* \*
- 17 (19) To assist libraries in acquiring and effectively
- 18 <u>utilizing technology as a means to: acquire and maintain</u>
- 19 resources, share resources among libraries, provide convenient
- 20 access to library resources to all sectors of the library
- 21 <u>district</u>, and to enhance general library services.
- 22 Section 3. Section 203 of the act is amended to read:
- 23 Section 203. Appointment, Qualification, Tenure.--[The
- 24 Advisory Council on Library Development shall consist of twelve
- 25 members who shall be appointed by the Governor, three of whom
- 26 shall be trustees of local libraries, three of whom shall be
- 27 professional librarians, and six of whom shall be laymen. The
- 28 Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Librarian
- 29 shall be ex officio members of the council. The term of office
- 30 of each member of the council shall be four years from the third

- 1 Tuesday of January of the year in which he takes office, or
- 2 until his successor has been appointed and has qualified, except
- 3 that in the initial appointment of members of the council, four
- 4 members shall be appointed for a term of one year, four members
- 5 for a term of two years and four members for a term of three
- 6 years. The members shall serve without compensation other than
- 7 reimbursement for travel and other actual expenses incurred in
- 8 the performance of their duties. The Governor shall designate
- 9 one member as chairman of the council. The council shall meet at
- 10 least four times a year at such times and places as it shall
- 11 determine.] The Advisory Council on Library Development shall
- 12 consist of fifteen members who shall be appointed as follows:
- 13 (1) One local library trustee by the Governor and one each
- 14 appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate and the
- 15 minority leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
- 16 Representatives and the minority leader of the House of
- 17 <u>Representatives.</u>
- 18 (2) One librarian by the Governor and one each by the
- 19 President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House
- 20 <u>of Representatives.</u>
- 21 (3) One lay person each by the President pro tempore of the
- 22 Senate and the minority leader of the Senate and the Speaker of
- 23 the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the
- 24 <u>House of Representatives.</u>
- 25 (4) Two laypersons by the Governor.
- 26 (5) The president of the Pennsylvania Library Association.
- 27 All appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing
- 28 <u>authority for a term concurrent with the appointing authority's</u>
- 29 term. Members shall serve without compensation other than
- 30 reimbursement for travel and other actual expenses incurred in

- 1 the performance of their duties. The council shall meet at least
- 2 four times a year and shall elect its own chairman.
- 3 Section 4. Section 204 of the act is amended by adding a
- 4 paragraph to read:
- 5 Section 204. Powers and Duties. -- The Advisory Council on
- 6 Library Development shall have the power, and its duty shall
- 7 be--
- 8 \* \* \*
- 9 (7) To establish quidelines or policies for system libraries
- 10 and the district center which promote cooperation and
- 11 <u>coordination among system libraries and to consolidate or divide</u>
- 12 among the system libraries areas of library administration,
- 13 <u>including</u>, but not limited to, purchasing, fine and fee
- 14 collections, community relations, community outreach, personnel,
- 15 <u>data storage for the purpose of reducing duplication of</u>
- 16 <u>administrative effort, the increase of services and available</u>
- 17 <u>resources and increased efficiency. Nothing contained herein</u>
- 18 shall restrict or limit public libraries in the selection of
- 19 resources.
- 20 Section 5. Section 211 of the act, amended December 1, 1971
- 21 (P.L.578, No.150), is amended to read:
- 22 Section 211. Library Districts and District Library
- 23 Centers. -- (a) The State Librarian, with the approval of the
- 24 Advisory Council on Library Development, shall [designate up to
- 25 thirty libraries throughout the Commonwealth as District] divide
- 26 the Commonwealth into at least sixty but not more than sixty-
- 27 seven library districts and designate a district library center
- 28 in each district. The districts shall be established with a
- 29 preference to districts of a single county or several counties
- 30 <u>and congruent with county boundaries. District</u> Library Centers

- 1 [which] may include any local library, any State [College]
- 2 <u>university</u> library, the Pennsylvania State University Library
- 3 and any privately supported college or university library which
- 4 may agree to serve as a District Library Center. [District.
- 5 Library Centers shall have the power to contract with any city,
- 6 borough, town, township, school district, county or board of
- 7 trustees or managers of any local library, which wishes thereby
- 8 to become part of the District Library Center system of such
- 9 district. Any]
- 10 (b) All District Library [Center shall have the power to]
- 11 <u>Centers shall</u> provide direct library service to persons residing
- 12 within the district, [to provide supplementary library services
- 13 to all local libraries within the district, ] and [to] exchange
- 14 or provide services with other District Library Centers or
- 15 contract for the provision of library services with other
- 16 District Library Centers.
- 17 (c) Any local library, excluding a Regional Resource Center,
- 18 may, through its board of trustees or similar governing body,
- 19 elect to become part of the library system in the district where
- 20 the library is located. Any library electing to participate in
- 21 the system shall abide by the policies and procedures
- 22 established by the district system council. Every library
- 23 <u>designated as a district library center shall participate in the</u>
- 24 <u>library system as a condition of being named the district</u>
- 25 <u>center</u>.
- 26 (d) Each library system shall be administered by a council
- 27 of representatives of each system library. Each system library
- 28 representative shall serve at the leisure of the library board
- 29 of directors of the library. The representative of the district
- 30 center library shall serve as chair of the council. The council

- 1 shall meet at least quarterly, and may meet at the call of the
- 2 chair of the council or upon the call of a majority of the
- 3 representatives of the system libraries.
- 4 (e) Each library system council shall:
- 5 (1) Establish policies and procedures for system libraries
- 6 to consolidate and/or coordinate duties and responsibilities
- 7 among system libraries. The areas subject to this clause may
- 8 include, but not be limited to, purchasing, fine and fee
- 9 collections, community relations, accessibility to all segments
- 10 of a community, personnel, data storage and administration.
- 11 (2) Annually provide all local municipal officials in the
- 12 <u>district with information that may assist the local municipal</u>
- 13 officials in making decisions concerning municipal funding of a
- 14 system library.
- 15 (3) Establish a long-term plan by which library services may
- 16 be improved throughout the entire district and which details the
- 17 improvements to be made by each system library. This plan shall
- 18 include the following:
- 19 (i) Acquisition of technology.
- 20 (ii) Expansion of services to unserved communities or
- 21 populations.
- 22 (iii) Updating and/or expanding resources.
- 23 (iv) Improving infrastructure.
- 24 (v) Raising of funds and community relations.
- 25 (vi) The means by which libraries of the system are sharing
- 26 responsibilities and consolidating efforts.
- 27 The plan shall be annually updated incorporating any performance
- 28 <u>audit recommendations or other initiatives and provided to the</u>
- 29 <u>State Librarian.</u>
- 30 (4) Establish procedures for all system libraries to provide

- 1 supplementary library services to other system libraries of the
- 2 <u>same library district</u>.
- 3 Section 6. Section 303 of the act, amended July 10, 1985
- 4 (P.L.195, No.50) and June 30, 1989 (P.L.71, No.18), is amended
- 5 to read:
- 6 Section 303. State-aid.--[(a) Beginning in the 1985-1986
- 7 fiscal year, in each year that the Commonwealth's total annual
- 8 appropriation for the system of State-aid established by section
- 9 301 equals or exceeds seventeen million five hundred thousand
- 10 dollars (\$17,500,000), two and three-quarters percent (2.75%) of
- 11 said appropriation shall first be allocated as equalization aid,
- 12 as provided for in clause (6) of subsection (b) and the
- 13 remainder of said appropriation shall then be allocated
- 14 according to the percentages established in clauses (1), (2),
- 15 (3), (4), (5) and (7) of subsection (b).
- 16 (b) Subject to the limitations in subsection (a), State-aid
- 17 shall be paid when a library achieves the applicable standards
- 18 determined by counselling with the State Librarian pursuant to
- 19 the advice and recommendations of the Advisory Council on
- 20 Library Development, or submits plans as set forth in section
- 21 304 of this act leading to the achievement of such standards,
- 22 and makes a minimum financial effort as follows, except that no
- 23 library receiving State-aid prior to and at time of the approval
- 24 of this act shall receive less State-aid as a result of the
- 25 provisions hereof notwithstanding that such library has not
- 26 accepted the provisions of this act:
- 27 (1) Basic Aid to Local Libraries. Twenty-five percent (25%)
- 28 of the Commonwealth's total annual appropriation for the system
- 29 of State-aid established by section 301, or a minimum of twenty-
- 30 five cents (25¢) per capita for each person residing in the

- 1 municipalities of the libraries which qualify for basic aid,
- 2 shall be allocated as basic aid.
- 3 Any local library which makes a minimum financial effort
- 4 equal to one-half mill, for the municipalities on behalf of
- 5 which it applies for aid, or two dollars (\$2) per capita for
- 6 each person residing in those municipalities, whichever is less
- 7 and achieves the basic standards, shall qualify for basic State-
- 8 aid. Such aid shall not be less than twenty-five cents (25¢) for
- 9 each person residing in the municipalities. However, when the
- 10 allocation for basic aid exceeds the amount necessary to pay the
- 11 minimum rate, the entire allocation shall be distributed at a
- 12 per capita rate which shall be determined by dividing the
- 13 allocation by the number of persons in the Commonwealth on
- 14 behalf of which local libraries and library systems apply and
- 15 qualify for basic aid: Provided, That in the first year in which
- 16 a library applies for State-aid it shall qualify by making a
- 17 minimum financial effort equal to one-quarter mill, or one
- 18 dollar (\$1) per capita for each person residing in the
- 19 municipalities whichever is less.
- 20 In each of the succeeding five years, such library shall
- 21 qualify for maximum State-aid only when it increases its
- 22 financial effort by the following scale of percentages of the
- 23 difference between the financial effort with which such library
- 24 initially qualified for State-aid and a financial effort equal
- 25 to one-half mill, or two dollars (\$2) per capita for each person
- 26 residing in the municipalities for which it applies for aid,
- 27 whichever is less:
- 1st succeeding year--20 percent,
- 29 2nd succeeding year--40 percent,
- 30 3rd succeeding year--60 percent,

- 1 4th succeeding year--80 percent,
- 5th succeeding year--100 percent.
- 3 But where the increase in any year is less than the percentage
- 4 specified above, the amount of State-aid shall be reduced by a
- 5 percentage equal to one-fifth of the percentage which the
- 6 difference between the required increase and the actual increase
- 7 bears to the required increase multiplied by the number of years
- 8 of participation in State-aid beyond the first year.
- 9 After the fifth succeeding year, a local library shall not be
- 10 eligible for further State-aid unless it makes a financial
- 11 effort equal to one-half mill for the municipalities on behalf
- 12 of which it applies for aid, or two dollars (\$2) per capita for
- 13 each person residing in those municipalities, whichever is less.
- 14 (2) Incentive Aid to Local Libraries. Twenty-five percent
- 15 (25%) of the Commonwealth's total annual appropriation for the
- 16 system of State-aid established by section 301, or a minimum of
- 17 twenty-five cents (25¢) per capita for each person residing in
- 18 the direct service areas of the libraries which qualify for
- 19 incentive aid, shall be allocated as incentive aid.
- 20 Any local library or library system which makes a minimum
- 21 financial effort equal to one-half mill, or two dollars (\$2) per
- 22 capita for each person residing in its direct service area,
- 23 whichever is less and fulfills the minimum standards for local
- 24 libraries or the minimum standards for library systems,
- 25 whichever is applicable, shall qualify for incentive aid, which
- 26 shall be in addition to all other amounts of aid provided in
- 27 this section. Each qualifying library or library system shall
- 28 receive incentive aid up to fifty cents (50¢) for each one
- 29 dollar (\$1) of surplus financial effort but when fifty cents
- 30 (50¢) per dollar of surplus financial effort is more than

- 1 twenty-five cents (25¢) per capita the minimum incentive aid
- 2 shall be twenty-five cents (25¢) per capita for each person
- 3 residing in the direct service area. However, if after paying
- 4 the minimum amount set forth in this clause there is a balance
- 5 in the allocation, the balance shall be prorated among the
- 6 libraries and library systems which qualify for a larger amount
- 7 of aid at the rate of fifty cents (50¢) for each one dollar (\$1)
- 8 of surplus financial effort rather than at the rate of twenty-
- 9 five cents (25¢) per capita.
- 10 (3) County Libraries. Ten percent (10%) of the
- 11 Commonwealth's total annual appropriation for the system of
- 12 State-aid established by section 301 shall be allocated as aid
- 13 to county libraries.
- In the case of a county library of a second, second A, third,
- 15 fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh or eighth class county, State-aid
- 16 shall be given in an amount measured by the amount appropriated
- 17 by the county government from county moneys, either from the
- 18 General Fund or a special library tax or other sources, for the
- 19 support and maintenance of the county library, and shall be
- 20 determined as follows:

21		Percentage of Aid Calculated
22	Class of County	on County Appropriation
23	2	15%
24	2A and 3	20%
25	4	25%
26	5	33%
27	6	50%
28	7	75%
29	8	125%

30 The amount to be paid by the Commonwealth for the maintenance 19970H1903B2405 - 10 -

- 1 of any county library that qualifies under this clause shall, in
- 2 any year, be not less than eight thousand dollars (\$8,000)
- 3 whenever the applicable percentage of aid calculated on the
- 4 county government's appropriation amounts to more than eight
- 5 thousand dollars (\$8,000). If the applicable percentage of aid
- 6 calculated on the county government's appropriation amounts to
- 7 less than eight thousand dollars (\$8,000), then the county shall
- 8 receive such lesser amount. If the allocation for this category
- 9 of aid is less than the total amount for which all county
- 10 libraries qualify, the libraries shall be paid the minimum
- 11 amount of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) or such lesser amount
- 12 as may be necessary. If the allocation is greater than the total
- 13 amount of aid for which county libraries qualify, the balance
- 14 shall be added to the amount of aid to be distributed under
- 15 clause (7) of this subsection. A report of the expenditure of
- 16 such State moneys shall be made annually to the county
- 17 government and the State Librarian in such form as may be
- 18 required. County libraries may also apply for additional amounts
- 19 of State-aid under clauses (1) and (2) above, and clause (7)
- 20 following.
- 21 Payment of aid to county libraries shall be made to the board
- 22 of library directors in charge of each qualifying library.
- 23 (4) District Library Centers. Thirty percent (30%) of the
- 24 Commonwealth's total annual appropriation for the system of
- 25 State-aid established by section 301, or a minimum of twenty-
- 26 five cents (25¢) per capita, shall be allocated as aid for
- 27 district library centers.
- 28 Any library designated by the State Librarian to serve as a
- 29 district library center shall qualify for an additional amount
- 30 of State-aid. The rate of aid shall be determined by dividing

- 1 the total amount allocated for district library centers by the
- 2 total population of the State, but in no year shall that rate be
- 3 less than twenty-five cents (25¢) per capita. The amount of aid
- 4 to be paid each district library center shall be determined by
- 5 multiplying the per capita rate by the number of persons
- 6 residing in the district.
- 7 (5) Regional Library Resource Centers. Five percent (5%) of
- 8 the Commonwealth's annual appropriation for the system of State-
- 9 aid established by section 301 shall be allocated for aid to
- 10 regional library resource centers.
- 11 Any library designated by the State Librarian to serve as a
- 12 regional library resource center, shall qualify for additional
- 13 State-aid. The allocation shall be divided equally among the
- 14 libraries so designated, but in no year shall the amount be less
- 15 than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per designated
- 16 library.
- 17 (6) Equalization Aid. Beginning in the 1985-1986 fiscal
- 18 year, in each year that the Commonwealth's total annual
- 19 appropriation for the system of State-aid established by section
- 20 301 equals or exceeds seventeen million five hundred thousand
- 21 dollars (\$17,500,000), two and three-quarters percent (2.75%) of
- 22 said appropriation shall first be allocated as equalization aid.
- 23 Any local library or library system which achieves or exceeds
- 24 applicable basic standards, maintains or exceeds its financial
- 25 effort of the preceding year and is supported by a municipality
- 26 that is economically distressed by any one or more of the
- 27 following criteria shall qualify for equalization aid. For
- 28 purposes of determining eligibility for equalization aid, an
- 29 economically distressed municipality shall be: (i) a city,
- 30 borough, town or township having a market value per capita below

- 1 the fifth percentile of all such cities, boroughs, towns and
- 2 townships, as certified annually by the State Tax Equalization
- 3 Board; (ii) located in a county having a personal income per
- 4 capita below the fifteenth percentile of all counties, as
- 5 certified annually by the Department of Revenue; or (iii)
- 6 located in a county having an annual average unemployment rate
- 7 above the seventieth percentile of all counties, as determined
- 8 annually by the Department of Labor and Industry. Population
- 9 data to be used for determining market value per capita and
- 10 personal income per capita, as provided for in this clause,
- 11 shall be the latest available data from the Federal Bureau of
- 12 Census for the direct service area of the local library or
- 13 library system.
- 14 In the case of a library or library system that is supported
- 15 by an economically distressed municipality but that fails to
- 16 maintain or exceed its financial effort of the preceding year,
- 17 the library may still qualify for equalization aid if the State
- 18 Librarian accepts evidence that the library or municipality did
- 19 not attempt to substitute State funds for local effort.
- 20 Beginning in the 1985-1986 fiscal year, twenty percent (20%)
- 21 of the annual allocation for equalization aid shall first be
- 22 distributed in equal amounts to all local libraries and members
- 23 of library systems which qualify for such aid, as determined in
- 24 accordance with the provisions of this clause. The remainder of
- 25 the annual allocation shall be distributed on a per capita basis
- 26 to each local library and library system which qualifies for
- 27 such aid, as determined in accordance with the provisions of
- 28 this clause, by dividing the number of persons residing in the
- 29 direct service area of each such local library or library system
- 30 by the total number of such persons residing in the direct

- 1 service areas of all qualifying local libraries or library
- 2 systems, and multiplying the result by the amount of the
- 3 allocation to be distributed on a per capita basis.
- 4 No local library or library system shall, as a result of the
- 5 provisions of this clause, receive in any year more than one-
- 6 third of the total annual appropriation for equalization aid.
- 7 During the 1985-1986 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter
- 8 that the Commonwealth's total annual appropriation for the
- 9 system of State-aid established by section 301 exceeds seventeen
- 10 million five hundred thousand dollars (\$17,500,000), no local
- 11 library or library system shall receive less equalization aid as
- 12 a result of the provisions of this clause than such local
- 13 library or library system received for equalization aid during
- 14 the 1984-1985 fiscal year.
- 15 (7) Equal Distribution Grants to Local Libraries and Library
- 16 Systems and Certain District Library Centers. Five percent (5%)
- 17 of the Commonwealth's annual appropriation for the system of
- 18 State-aid established by section 301, and all funds transferred
- 19 from the county library allocation after the county libraries
- 20 have been paid the total amounts for which they qualify, shall
- 21 be allocated as hereinafter provided: (i) five cents (5¢) per
- 22 capita for each person residing in the entire district for each
- 23 district library center which has a population in its direct
- 24 service area as a local or county library which is twelve
- 25 percent (12%) or less of the population of the entire designated
- 26 direct service area; (ii) the balance as equal grants to local
- 27 libraries and library systems which qualify for aid under clause
- 28 (1). These grants shall be determined by dividing the total
- 29 amount of money allocated by the number of local libraries,
- 30 branch libraries and bookmobiles in the Commonwealth which

- 1 achieve or exceed the applicable basic standards. Each library
- 2 system shall receive an equal grant for each qualifying member
- 3 local library, branch library and bookmobile. Each local library
- 4 shall receive an equal grant for the central library and each
- 5 qualifying branch library and bookmobile.] (a) The Commonwealth
- 6 shall provide each local library with basic State-aid based on
- 7 <u>local effort in accordance with the following scale:</u>
- 8 (1) If the local effort is below one-fifth of a mill in the
- 9 municipality in which the library is located, the library shall
- 10 be eligible to receive an amount equal to twenty percent (20%)
- 11 of the local effort.
- 12 (2) If the local effort is above one-fifth of a mill and
- 13 below one-fourth of a mill in the municipality in which the
- 14 library is located, the library shall be eligible to receive an
- 15 amount equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the local effort.
- 16 (3) If the local effort is above one-fourth of a mill and
- 17 below one-third of a mill in the municipality in which the
- 18 library is located, the library shall be eligible to receive an
- 19 amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of the local effort.
- 20 (4) If the local effort is above one-third of a mill and
- 21 below one-half of a mill in the municipality in which the
- 22 library is located, the library shall be eliqible to receive an
- 23 amount equal to thirty-five percent (35%) of the local effort.
- 24 (5) If the local effort is above one-half of a mill in the
- 25 <u>municipality in which the library is located, the library shall</u>
- 26 be eliqible to receive an amount equal to forty percent (40%) of
- 27 the local effort.
- 28 For the first and second fiscal year after the enactment of
- 29 this section, the amount provided in clauses (1) through (5)
- 30 shall be multiplied by five-tenths for the initial fiscal year

- 1 and seventy-five hundredths for the second fiscal year.
- 2 (b) (1) If a library elects to join the library system in
- 3 accordance with section 211, then the library shall receive an
- 4 amount equal to the amount provided in subsection (a) multiplied
- 5 by:
- 6 (i) One and two-tenths for the first fiscal year after the
- 7 <u>effective date of this section.</u>
- 8 (ii) One and four-tenths for the second fiscal year after
- 9 the effective date of this section.
- 10 (iii) One and six-tenths for the third fiscal year after the
- 11 <u>effective date of this section and every fiscal year thereafter.</u>
- 12 (2) In no event shall any library which joins the library
- 13 system in accordance with section 211 receive less funding under
- 14 this section than it received in fiscal year 1997-1998.
- (c) Any system library may apply for grants to assist in the
- 16 implementation of its long-term plan required in section 211,
- 17 relating to resource improvement and expansion of services. The
- 18 grants shall be awarded by the Advisory Council on Library
- 19 Development on a competitive basis. Grants under this subsection
- 20 shall initially be awarded following the second fiscal year
- 21 <u>after enactment of this subsection. The total amount available</u>
- 22 during the initial year of grant availability shall be not less
- 23 than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per fiscal year and
- 24 thereafter not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) per
- 25 <u>fiscal year.</u>
- 26 (d) The sum of at least eighteen million dollars
- 27 (\$18,000,000) per fiscal year in the initial fiscal year
- 28 following the enactment of this subsection and at least twenty
- 29 <u>million dollars (\$20,000,000) per fiscal year thereafter shall</u>
- 30 be divided on a per capita basis among all district centers for

- 1 the purposes of carrying out responsibilities.
- 2 (e) The allocation for Regional Resource Centers shall be
- 3 <u>divided equally among the libraries so designated, but in no</u>
- 4 year shall the total amount be less than two million dollars
- 5 (\$2,000,000) per fiscal year.
- 6 (f) Any library which qualifies for at least twenty-five
- 7 percent (25%) basic State aid in accordance with subsection (a),
- 8 is a system library, and is supported by a municipality that is
- 9 <u>economically distressed shall be eligible for equalization aid.</u>
- 10 The sum of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per
- 11 fiscal year shall be divided equally among all qualifying system
- 12 <u>libraries</u>.
- 13 Section 7. Sections 413, 415 and 417 of the act are amended
- 14 to read:
- 15 Section 413. Library Directors to Control All Funds. -- All
- 16 moneys appropriated for the establishment and/or maintenance of
- 17 a local library and all moneys, if any, received from other
- 18 sources for its use, shall be under the exclusive control and
- 19 shall be disbursed under the direction of the board of library
- 20 directors. Such board of library directors shall have the power
- 21 to contract with the board of directors of another library to
- 22 establish a cooperative plan for improving library services.
- 23 The board of control of any library, established as specified
- 24 in section 411 of this act, and of any library receiving
- 25 municipal appropriations shall make a report, annually, to the
- 26 proper municipal authorities, of the moneys received by such
- 27 library from the municipality and the dispositions made thereof,
- 28 and the accounts of the treasurer of said board shall be audited
- 29 as in the case of other municipal expenditures.
- 30 The Auditor General of the Commonwealth shall annually

- 1 conduct a performance audit on at least ten percent (10%) of the
- 2 <u>libraries located in this Commonwealth which receive funding</u>
- 3 under this act. Copies of the audit shall be provided to the
- 4 Director of the Bureau of State Library, the appropriate library
- 5 system council and to the library's board of directors.
- 6 Section 415. Free Use of Library, Rules and Regulations.--
- 7 Every library, established and/or maintained under the
- 8 provisions of this act, shall be free to the use of all the
- 9 residents and taxpayers of the municipality, and to all the
- 10 residents and taxpayers of other municipalities which provide a
- 11 minimum financial effort of at least one-fifth of a mill to any
- 12 system library of that district, provided that the other
- 13 <u>municipality is within the same library district</u> subject to such
- 14 reasonable rules and regulations as the board of library
- 15 directors may adopt, and the board may exclude from the use of
- 16 the library any person who wilfully violates such rules. The
- 17 board may extend the privileges of such library to persons
- 18 residing outside the limits of such municipality upon such terms
- 19 and conditions as the board may prescribe.
- 20 Section 417. Limitations of Establishment of New
- 21 Libraries.--Whenever there is in any municipality a local
- 22 library which is open to the use of all the residents thereof
- 23 and which meets the minimum standards recommended by the State
- 24 Librarian as conditions for participation in State-aid, no new
- 25 library shall be, there, established under the provisions of
- 26 this act, but all public aid hereby authorized shall be given to
- 27 such existing library to enable it to meet as far as possible
- 28 the needs of such residents: Provided, however, That wherever
- 29 there may have been on or before July 20, 1917, two or more such
- 30 libraries receiving aid from the same municipality, the

- appropriation authorized by this act shall be divided between 1
- 2 said libraries according to the terms of an agreement previously
- 3 entered into between said libraries and approved by the State
- 4 Librarian. Any newly established library shall not receive any
- 5 State-aid funding unless the library participates in the library
- system where the library is located.
- 7 Section 8. This act shall take effect in 60 days.