

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -- ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER FUNDING

10% Reduction in Maintenance of Effort for 2012 and 2013
[LFB Paper #562]

Motion:

Move to delete the Governor's recommendation and, instead, provide that, for calendar years 2012 and 2013, a county or municipality would be permitted to reduce by 10% the amount of funding required under the maintenance of effort provision. For 2014, the three-year average maintenance of effort requirement would again apply.

Note:

Under current law, in order to be included in a public library system, each county must demonstrate to the satisfaction of DPI that it is able to provide adequate funding to implement a county plan for library services. Each county is required to maintain its support for library services at a level not lower than the average of the previous three years. The three-year average is adjusted to reflect cost savings from consolidating services or for a municipality levying its own, equivalent tax for library services. A municipal, county, or joint public library may participate in a public library system if it meets certain requirements, including that the total amount of funding received from the library's governing body or bodies is not less than the average of such funding received for the previous three years. The calculation of the three-year average excludes: (a) funding received from state, federal, private, or other fund sources; (b) unspent funding appropriated by a municipality or county for library services in a prior year; and (c) for a municipal or joint library, funding received from a county.

Under the bill, the requirement that counties and municipalities maintain their support for library services at a level not lower than the average of the previous three years would be repealed. The motion would, instead, decrease the maintenance of effort requirement by 10% for funding required in calendar years 2012 and 2013.