

By the Committee on Tourism and Representatives Garcia,
Arza, Diaz de la Portilla and Alexander

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public libraries; amending
3 s. 257.17, F.S.; providing additional
4 conditions for receipt of operating grants;
5 providing conditions for potential loss of
6 eligibility to receive an operating grant;
7 requiring a report to the Division of Library
8 and Information Services of the Department of
9 State; requiring a report to the Legislature;
10 revising a repeal date with respect to
11 authorizing certain municipalities to receive
12 operating grants for libraries; providing an
13 effective date.

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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 257.17, Florida
18 Statutes, is amended to read:

19 257.17 Operating grants.--A political subdivision that
20 has been designated by a county as the single library
21 administrative unit is eligible to receive from the state an
22 annual operating grant of not more than 25 percent of all
23 local funds expended by that political subdivision during the
24 second preceding fiscal year for the operation and maintenance
25 of a library, under the following conditions:

26 (4)~~(a)~~ A municipality with a population of 200,000 or
27 more that establishes or maintains a library is eligible to
28 receive from the state an annual operating grant of not more
29 than 25 percent of all local funds expended by that
30 municipality during the second preceding fiscal year for the

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1 operation and maintenance of a library, under the following
2 conditions:

3 ~~(a)1.~~ The municipal library is operated under a single
4 administrative head and expends its funds centrally;

5 ~~(b)2.~~ The municipal library has an operating budget of
6 at least \$20,000 per year from local sources; and

7 ~~(c)3.~~ The municipal library provides free library
8 service to all residents of the municipality.

9 (d) The municipality enters into negotiations with the
10 county-designated single administrative unit, with
11 participation of the Division of Library and Information
12 Services of the Department of State, to form a public library
13 cooperative to extend library service to residents of both
14 legal service areas through interlocal agreement. Failure by
15 either entity to work cooperatively toward forming a
16 cooperative may result in the loss of eligibility to receive
17 an operating grant for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

18 (e) The municipality and county-designated single
19 administrative unit shall submit a report on the progress made
20 toward forming a cooperative to the Division of Library and
21 Information Services by December 1, 2001.

22 (f) By January 1, 2002, the Division of Library and
23 Information Services of the Department of State shall submit a
24 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
25 House of Representatives which shall include a status report
26 on the progress of the negotiations described in paragraph (d)
27 and recommendations for any changes in law or funding as a
28 result of such report. The report shall also include a review
29 of the state aid to libraries program to determine what
30 revisions, if any, need to be made to that program to
31 encourage and improve the delivery of free library service to

1 all residents of the state. Finally, the report shall provide
2 recommendations for statutory and funding changes based upon
3 the review.

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5 ~~(b)~~ This subsection is repealed on July 1, 2002 ~~2001~~.

6 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
7 law.

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