

By Senator Smith

14-990-04

See HB 259

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public libraries; amending
3 s. 257.191, F.S.; revising provisions relating
4 to public library construction grants;
5 providing for waiver of local matching
6 requirement under certain circumstances;
7 authorizing the Division of Library and
8 Information Services to administer certain
9 funds; providing for eligibility for grant
10 funding; providing for the adoption of rules;
11 providing for effect contingent upon certain
12 appropriations; providing an effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. Section 257.191, Florida Statutes, is
17 amended to read:18 257.191 Public library construction grants.--

19 (1) The Division of Library and Information Services
20 may accept and administer library construction moneys
21 appropriated to it and shall allocate such appropriation to
22 municipal, county, and regional libraries in the form of
23 public library construction grants on a matching basis. The
24 local matching portion shall be no less than the grant amount,
25 on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to the maximum grant amount,
26 unless the matching requirement is waived by s. 288.06561. The
27 division shall waive the matching requirement if a county or
28 municipality requests a waiver of the matching requirement and
29 has been designated a rural community in accordance with ss.
30 288.0656(2)(b) and 288.06561.Initiation of a library
31 construction project 12 months or less prior to the grant

1 award under this section shall not affect the eligibility of
2 an applicant to receive a public library construction grant.

3 (2)(a) The Division of Library and Information
4 Services may accept and administer moneys appropriated to it
5 for small county public library construction grants. The
6 purpose of the grants is to assist counties and municipalities
7 that have been designated rural communities in accordance with
8 ss. 288.0656(2)(b) and 288.06561 to construct, expand, or
9 renovate public library facilities to meet the requirement of
10 0.6 square feet per capita of total library floor space.

11 (b) To be eligible to compete for funds under this
12 subsection, a county or municipality shall:

13 1. Comply with the definition of rural community as
14 provided in s. 288.0656(2)(b).

15 2. Have less than 0.6 square feet per capita of total
16 library floor space.

17 3. Certify that the county or municipality will
18 appropriate and expend sufficient funds to operate the
19 completed library facility.

20 4. Not apply if a grant has been awarded under the
21 public library construction grant program provided in
22 subsection (1) for the same fiscal year.

23 (c) The implementation of the provisions of the small
24 county public library construction grants under this
25 subsection shall be contingent upon specific appropriations
26 provided to the Department of State for funding of these
27 grants.

28 (3) A public library shall not receive grant funding
29 from the public library construction grant program provided in
30 subsection (1) and the small county public library

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1 construction grant program provided in subsection (2) during
2 the same fiscal year.

3 (4) The division shall adopt rules for the
4 administration of library construction grants. For the
5 purposes of this section, s. 257.21 does not apply.

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

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