

Montana State Library 5115

Information Access Montana Darlene Staffeldt, State Librarian, 444-3116

Purpose: Revise current statute entitled State interlibrary loan program, MCA 22-1-328. The current statute is one of four pieces of Information Access Montana Act passed in 1989. The requested revision to the statute will allow for alternative methods of helping Montana libraries to share their library resources with Montanans across the State. This proposed revision will provide the State Library Commission with the means to repurpose the approximately \$200,000 currently issued to libraries via the interlibrary loan reimbursement program.

Background: A Fulfillment Task Force with fourteen members, librarians representing all types of libraries and all areas of the state, has studied this issue for just under a year now and its recommendation of what would be the best possible approach (the long range plan) for resource sharing in Montana would be: Additional State support in terms of funding and State Library staff resources for:

- a statewide OCLC contract;
- a federated search option;
- statewide authentication tool(s);
- URL resolver;
- more of Montana's libraries participating in the Montana Shared Catalog;
- Montana Shared Catalog ongoing costs;
- courier service contract(s),
- and non-courier delivery service(s)

As a step to get us to these long range goals, we would like to repurpose the funding and program entitled "State interlibrary loan program – reimbursement" and use those funds at this time to provide partial state funding of the statewide OCLC contract and partial state funding of the Montana Shared Catalog. As additional funds become available we would like to be able to use them in support of the other goals/programs stated above.

Fiscal impact by fund type: We are asking for no new monies, we want the ability to repurpose the current approximate \$200,000 towards new ways of supporting resource sharing within Montana's libraries.

Similar legislation was submitted in the 2007 session under HB 133, but was tabled in first Committee. Additional study, research, and support has been completed since that time.