

**General Description of Administrative Rules Changes
the State Library Believes Will Be Beneficial to Libraries
(November 2009)**

Because of the likelihood that an Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) hearing will be needed in early 2010 to facilitate the proposed repurposing of ILL Reimbursement Funds, the State Library intends to bring to the State Library Commission at its December 2009 meeting several additional ARM “house-keeping” and updating changes. It is viewed to be expedient and of service to the library community to combine ARM processes rather than to run several separate processes throughout the year. The following are the ARM elements identified thus far to be considered for changes. Specific suggested language alterations will be included in the proposal that goes to the Library Commission.

Suggested Areas of Change:

Public Library Standards – Address library board meeting requirements, timeline for review of governance structure, trustee certification, mission statement requirement, timeline for reviewing adequacy of insurance coverage, certification of all public library directors in accord with the revised certification program, library director membership in the Montana Library Association, library director role in the development of innovative programs, staff training, library websites, collection management policies, building plans, and patron surveys.

Library Federations - Address the inequity of Federation Coordinator travel costs to Library Commission meetings by altering the Federation funds distribution formula to pay for Coordinator travel prior to the division of the remainder of the funds to each Federation (as suggested by the Federation Coordinators), address timelines for submission of Federation Plans of Service and Annual Reports, include tribal libraries in description of whom is eligible to participate in a Federation, and clarify federation libraries’ ability to purchase access to online bibliographical information with federation funds.