

April 9, 2002

To: MSL Commission
From: Karen Strege, State Librarian
Re: Ill program recommendations

This memo is intended to clarify the decisions needed and propose a timetable for the possible implementation of the recommendations from the ILL study committee.

The Commission could make most of the recommended changes through the rule making process. No further legislative authority is needed to change the formula in which the funding is distributed or the amount allocated to the program if the funds are used to promote resource sharing in the state.

However, a significant part of one recommendation does require the Governor's and legislative approval. This part, of course, is the additional \$200,000 from the coal severance tax account. Because this funding is critical to the formation of recommendation number four, I suggest that the Commission should discuss these recommendations, but not take formal action (other than to accept the report and thank the committee for their efforts) at the April meeting. I suggest that the Commission delay formal action until it learns if the Governor will approve the request for more funds. Therefore, a timetable might be as follows:

Commission action, accept recommendations for further study	April 10
Include proposal in EPP package to Governor	April 15
Governor decides on EPP package	June/July
Commission considers Governor's action and plans next steps	June or August

Possible actions:

If Governor approves, present proposal to library community for comments and improvements?

If Governor disapproves, Networking Task Force and ILL study committee reconsider recommendations and make a revised recommendation to the Commission?