

SB1550



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB1550

Introduced 2/4/2025, by Sen. Laura M. Murphy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

75 ILCS 10/8

from Ch. 81, par. 118

Amends the Illinois Library System Act. In provisions concerning State grants, provides that the grants shall include, among other things, planning and construction grants to library systems and public libraries that are members of a library system (rather than planning and construction grants to public libraries and library systems) and grants to improve or enhance security of libraries.

LRB104 09720 RTM 19786 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Library System Act is amended by
5 changing Section 8 as follows:

6 (75 ILCS 10/8) (from Ch. 81, par. 118)

7 Sec. 8. State grants.

8 (a) There shall be a program of State grants within the
9 limitations of funds appropriated by the Illinois General
10 Assembly together with other funds made available by the
11 federal government or other sources for this purpose. This
12 program of State grants shall be administered by the State
13 Librarian in accordance with rules and regulations as provided
14 in Section 3 of this Act and shall include the following: (i)
15 annual equalization grants; (ii) Library System grants; (iii)
16 per capita grants to public libraries; ~~and~~ (iv) planning and
17 construction grants to ~~public libraries and~~ library systems
18 and public libraries that are. ~~Libraries, in order to be~~
19 ~~eligible for grants under this Section, must be~~ members of a
20 library system; and (v) grants to improve or enhance security
21 of libraries.

22 (b) An annual equalization grant shall be made to all
23 public libraries for which the corporate authorities levy a

1 tax for library purposes at a rate not less than .13% of the
2 value of all the taxable property as equalized and assessed by
3 the Department of Revenue if the amount of tax revenue
4 obtained from a rate of .13% produces less than \$17.50 per
5 capita in property tax revenue from property taxes for Fiscal
6 Year 2025 and thereafter. In that case, the State Librarian is
7 authorized to make an equalization grant equivalent to the
8 difference between the amount obtained from a rate of .13% and
9 an annual income of \$17.50 per capita for grants made in Fiscal
10 Year 2025 and thereafter. If moneys appropriated for grants
11 under this Section are not sufficient, then the State
12 Librarian shall reduce the per capita amount of the grants so
13 that the qualifying public libraries receive the same amount
14 per capita, but in no event shall the grant be less than
15 equivalent to the difference between the amount of the tax
16 revenue obtained from the current levy and an annual income of
17 \$4.25 per capita. If a library receiving an equalization grant
18 reduces its tax levy below the amount levied at the time the
19 original application is approved, it shall be ineligible to
20 receive further equalization grants.

21 If a library is subject to the Property Tax Extension
22 Limitation Law in the Property Tax Code and its tax levy for
23 library purposes has been lowered to a rate of less than .13%,
24 the library will qualify for this grant if the library levied a
25 tax for library purposes that met the requirements for this
26 grant in the previous year and if the tax levied for library

1 purposes in the current year produces tax revenue for the
2 library that is an increase over the previous year's extension
3 of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index,
4 whichever is less, and the tax revenue produced by this levy is
5 less than \$17.50 per capita in property tax revenue from
6 property taxes for the Fiscal Year 2025 and thereafter. In
7 this case, the State Librarian is authorized to make an
8 equalization grant equivalent to the difference between the
9 amount of tax revenue obtained from the current levy and an
10 annual income of \$17.50 per capita for grants made in Fiscal
11 Year 2025 and thereafter. If moneys appropriated for grants
12 under this Section are not sufficient, then the State
13 Librarian shall reduce the per capita amount of the grants so
14 that the qualifying public libraries receive the same amount
15 per capita, but in no event shall the grant be less than
16 equivalent to the difference between the amount of the tax
17 revenue obtained from the current levy and an annual income of
18 \$4.25 per capita. If a library receiving an equalization grant
19 reduces its tax levy below the amount levied at the time the
20 original application is approved, it shall be ineligible to
21 receive further equalization grants.

22 (c) Annual Library System grants shall be made, upon
23 application, to each library system approved by the State
24 Librarian on the following basis:

- 25 (1) For library systems, the sum of \$1.46 per capita
26 of the population of the area served plus the sum of \$50.75

1 per square mile or fraction thereof of the area served
2 except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection.

3 (2) If the amounts appropriated for grants are
4 different from the amount provided for in paragraph (1) of
5 this subsection, the area and per capita funding shall be
6 proportionately reduced or increased accordingly.

7 (3) For library systems, additional funds may be
8 appropriated. The appropriation shall be distributed on
9 the same proportional per capita and per square mile basis
10 as provided in paragraphs (1) and (4) of this subsection.

11 (4) Per capita and area funding for a multitype
12 library system as defined in subparagraph (3) of the
13 definition of "library system" in Section 2 and a public
14 library system in cities with a population of 500,000 or
15 more as defined in subparagraph (2) of the definition of
16 "library system" in Section 2 shall be apportioned with
17 25% of the funding granted to the multitype library system
18 and 75% of the funding granted to the public library
19 system.

20 (d) The "area served" for the purposes of making and
21 expending annual Library System grants means the area that
22 lies within the geographic boundaries of the library system as
23 approved by the State Librarian, except that grant funding
24 awarded to a library system may also be expended for the
25 provision of services to members of other library systems if
26 such an expenditure is included in a library system's plan of

1 service and is approved by the State Librarian. In determining
2 the population of the area served by the library system, the
3 Illinois State Library shall use the latest federal census for
4 the political subdivisions in the area served.

5 (e) In order to be eligible for a grant under this Section,
6 the corporate authorities, instead of a tax levy at a
7 particular rate, may provide an amount equivalent to the
8 amount produced by that levy.

9 (Source: P.A. 103-588, eff. 7-1-24.)