

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public libraries; amending
3 s. 257.17, F.S.; extending the repeal date of a
4 provision authorizing operating grants;
5 requiring the Division of Library and
6 Information Services to facilitate the
7 extension of free library services through
8 interlocal agreement; requiring reports;
9 providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 257.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

257.17 Operating grants.--A political subdivision that has been designated by a county as the single library administrative unit is eligible to receive from the state an annual operating grant of not more than 25 percent of all local funds expended by that political subdivision during the second preceding fiscal year for the operation and maintenance of a library, under the following conditions:

(4)(a) A municipality with a population of 200,000 or more that establishes or maintains a library is eligible to receive from the state an annual operating grant of not more than 25 percent of all local funds expended by that municipality during the second preceding fiscal year for the operation and maintenance of a library, under the following conditions:

1. The municipal library is operated under a single administrative head and expends its funds centrally;

1 2. The municipal library has an operating budget of at
2 least \$20,000 per year from local sources; and

3 3. The municipal library provides free library service
4 to all residents of the municipality.

5 (b) This subsection is repealed on July 1, 2002 ~~2001~~.

6 Section 2. (1) The Division of Library and
7 Information Services of the Department of State shall
8 encourage and facilitate the exploration of the feasibility of
9 forming public library cooperatives by municipalities and
10 county-designated single administrative units through
11 interlocal agreement in order to extend library service to
12 residents of both legal service areas. A municipality and
13 county-designated single administrative unit that explores the
14 feasibility of extending library service to residents of both
15 service areas shall submit recommendations on the progress
16 made toward forming a cooperative to the Division of Library
17 and Information Services by December 1, 2001. By January 2,
18 2002, the division shall submit a report to the President of
19 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
20 which shall include a status report on the progress of
21 extending library services by these entities and shall make
22 recommendations for any changes in law or funding as a result
23 of the report. The report shall also include a review of the
24 State Aid to Libraries program to determine what revisions, if
25 any, need to be made to that program to encourage and improve
26 the delivery of free library service to all residents of the
27 state. Finally, the report shall provide recommendations for
28 statutory and funding changes based upon the review.

29 (2) This section expires July 1, 2002.

30 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
31 law.