Public Law 91-600

AN ACT

To amend the Library Services and Construction Act, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Library Services and Construction Amendments of 1970".

PURPOSE: AMENDMENT TO THE LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT

SEC. 2. (a) It is the purpose of this Act to improve the administration, implementation, and purposes of the programs authorized by the Library Services and Construction Act, by lessening the administrative burden upon the States through a reduction in the number of State plans which must be submitted and approved annually under such Act and to afford the States greater discretion in the allocation of funds under such Act to meet specific State needs and, by providing for special programs to meet the needs of disadvantaged persons, in both urban and rural areas, for library services and for strengthening the capacity of State library administrative agencies for meeting the needs of all the people of the States.

(b) The Library Services and Construction Act (20 U.S.C. 351 et seq.), is amended by striking out all that follows the first section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"DECLARATION OF POLICY

SEC. 2. (a) It is the purpose of this Act to assist the States in the extension and improvement of public library services in areas of the States which are without such services or in which such services are inadequate, and with public library construction, and in the improvement of such other State library services as library services for physically handicapped, institutionalized, and disadvantaged persons, in strengthening State library administrative agencies, and in promoting interlibrary cooperation among all types of libraries.

(b) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to interfere with State and local initiative and responsibility in the conduct of library services. The administration of libraries, the selection of personnel and library books and materials, and, insofar as consistent with the purposes of this Act, the determination of the best uses of the funds provided under this Act shall be reserved to the States and their local subdivisions.

"DEFINITIONS

SEC. 3. The following definitions shall apply to this Act:"

"(1) ‘Commissioner’ means the Commissioner of Education.

"(2) ‘Construction’ includes construction of new buildings and acquisition, expansion, remodeling, and alteration of existing buildings, and initial equipment of any such buildings, or any combination of such activities (including architects' fees and the cost of acquisition of land). For the purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘equipment’ includes machinery, utilities, and built-in equipment and any necessary enclosures or structures to house them; and such term includes all other items necessary for the functioning of a particular facility as a facility for the provision of library services."
"(3) 'Library service' means the performance of all activities of a library relating to the collection and organization of library materials and to making the materials and information of a library available to a clientele.

"(4) 'Library services for the physically handicapped' means the providing of library services, through public or other nonprofit libraries, agencies, or organizations, to physically handicapped persons (including the blind and other visually handicapped) certified by competent authority as unable to read or to use conventional printed materials as a result of physical limitations.

"(5) 'Public library' means a library that serves free of charge all residents of a community, district, or region, and receives its financial support in whole or in part from public funds.

"(6) 'Public library services' means library services furnished by a public library free of charge.

"(7) 'State' means a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

"(8) 'State Advisory Council on Libraries' means an advisory council for the purposes of clause (3) of section 6(a) of this Act which shall—

"(A) be broadly representative of the public, school, academic, special, and institutional libraries, and libraries serving the handicapped, in the State and of persons using such libraries, including disadvantaged persons within the State;

"(B) advise the State library administrative agency on the development of, and policy matters arising in the administration of, the State plan; and

"(C) assist the State library administrative agency in the evaluation of activities assisted under this Act;

"(9) 'State institutional library services' means the providing of books and other library materials, and of library services, to (A) inmates, patients, or residents of penal institutions, reformatories, residential training schools, orphanages, or general or special institutions or hospitals operated or substantially supported by the State, or (B) students in residential schools for the physically handicapped (including mentally retarded, hard of hearing, deaf, speech impaired, visually handicapped, seriously emotionally disturbed, crippled, or other health impaired persons who by reason thereof require special education) operated or substantially supported by the State.

"(10) 'State library administrative agency' means the official agency of a State charged by law of that State with the extension and development of public library services throughout the State, which has adequate authority under law of the State to administer State plans in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

"(11) 'Basic State plan' means the document which gives assurances that the officially designated State library administrative agency has the fiscal and legal authority and capability to administer all aspects of this Act; provides assurances for establishing the State's policies, priorities, criteria, and procedures necessary to the implementation of all programs under provisions of this Act; and submits copies for approval as required by regulations promulgated by the Commissioner.

"(12) 'Long-range program' means the comprehensive five-year program which identifies a State's library needs and sets forth the activities to be taken toward meeting the identified needs supported with the assistance of Federal funds made available under this Act. Such long-range programs shall be developed by the State library administrative agency and shall specify the State's policies, criteria,
priorities, and procedures consistent with the Act as required by the regulations promulgated by the Commissioner and shall be updated as library progress requires.

"(13) 'Annual program' means the projects which are developed and submitted to describe the specific activities to be carried out annually toward achieving fulfillment of the long-range program. These annual programs shall be submitted in such detail as required by regulations promulgated by the Commissioner.

"AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS"

"Sec. 4. (a) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act the following sums are authorized to be appropriated:

"(1) For the purpose of making grants to States for library services as provided in title I, there are authorized to be appropriated $112,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, $117,600,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973, $123,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, $129,675,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, and $137,150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976.

"(2) For the purpose of making grants to States for public library construction, as provided in title II, there are authorized to be appropriated $80,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, $84,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973, $88,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, $92,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, and $97,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976.

"(3) For the purpose of making grants to States to enable them to carry out interlibrary cooperation programs authorized by title III, there are hereby authorized to be appropriated $15,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, $15,750,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973, $16,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974, $17,300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, and $18,200,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976.

"(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, unless enacted in express limitation of the provisions of this subsection, any sums appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall (1), in the case of sums appropriated pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (3) thereof, be available for obligation and expenditure for the period of time specified in the Act making such appropriation, and (2), in the case of sums appropriated pursuant to paragraph (2) thereof, subject to regulations of the Commissioner promulgated in carrying out the provisions of section 5(b), be available for obligation and expenditure for the year specified in the Appropriation Act and for the next succeeding year.

"ALLOTMENTS TO STATES"

"Sec. 5. (a) (1) From the sums appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 4(a) for any fiscal year, the Commissioner shall allot the minimum allotment, as determined under paragraph (3) of this subsection, to each State. Any sums remaining after minimum allotments have been made shall be allotted in the manner set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

"(2) From the remainder of any sums appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 4(a) for any fiscal year, the Commissioner shall allot to each State such part of such remainder as the population of the State bears to the population of all the States."
“(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the ‘minimum allotment’ shall be—

“(A) with respect to appropriations for the purposes of title I, $200,000 for each State, except that it shall be $40,000 in the case of Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands;

“(B) with respect to appropriations for the purposes of title II, $100,000 for each State, except that it shall be $20,000 in the case of Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

“(C) with respect to appropriations for the purposes of title III, $40,000 for each State, except that it shall be $10,000 in the case of Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

If the sums appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 4(a) for any fiscal year are insufficient to fully satisfy the aggregate of the minimum allotments for that purpose, each of such minimum allotments shall be reduced ratably.

“(4) The population of each State and of all the States shall be determined by the Commissioner on the basis of the most recent satisfactory data available to him.

“(5) There is hereby authorized for the purpose of evaluation (directly or by grants or contracts) of programs authorized by this Act, such sums as Congress may deem necessary for any fiscal year.

“(b) The amount of any State’s allotment under subsection (a) for any fiscal year from any appropriation made pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 4(a) which the Commissioner deems will not be required for the period and the purpose for which such allotment is available for carrying out the State’s annual program shall be available for reallocation from time to time on such dates during such year as the Commissioner shall fix. Such amount shall be available for reallocation to other States in proportion to the original allotments for such year to such States under subsection (a) but with such proportionate amount for any of such other State being reduced to the extent that it exceeds the amount which the Commissioner estimates the State needs and will be able to use for such period of time for which the original allotments were made and the total of such reductions shall be similarly reallocated among the States not suffering such a reduction. Any amount reallocated to a State under this subsection for any fiscal year shall be deemed to be a part of its allotment for such year pursuant to subsection (a).

“STATE PLANS AND PROGRAMS

“Sec. 6. (a) Any State desiring to receive its allotment for any purpose under this Act for any fiscal year shall (1) have in effect for such fiscal year a basic State plan as defined in section 3(11) and meeting the requirements set forth in subsection (b), (2) submit an annual program as defined in section 3(13) for the purposes for which allotments are desired, meeting the appropriate requirements set forth in titles I, II, and III, and shall submit (no later than July 1, 1972) a long-range program as defined in section 3(12) for carrying out the purposes of this Act as specified in subsection (d), and (3) establish a State Advisory Council on Libraries which meets the requirements of section 3(8).

“(b) A basic State plan under this Act shall—

“(1) provide for the administration, or supervision of the administration, of the programs authorized by this Act by the State library administrative agency;
“(2) provide that any funds paid to the State in accordance with a long-range program and an annual program shall be expended solely for the purposes for which funds have been authorized and appropriated and that such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures have been adopted as may be necessary to assure proper disbursement of, and account for, Federal funds paid to the State (including any such funds paid by the State to any other agency) under this Act;

“(3) provide satisfactory assurance that the State agency administering the plan (A) will make such reports, in such form and containing such information, as the Commissioner may reasonably require to carry out his functions under this Act and to determine the extent to which funds provided under this Act have been effective in carrying out its purposes, including reports of evaluations made under the State plans, and (B) will keep such records and afford such access thereto as the Commissioner may find necessary to assure the correctness and verification of such reports; and

“(4) set forth the criteria to be used in determining the adequacy of public library services in geographical areas and for groups of persons in the State, including criteria designed to assure that priority will be given to programs or projects which serve urban and rural areas with high concentrations of low-income families.

“(c) (1) The Commissioner shall not approve any basic State plan pursuant to this Act for any fiscal year unless—

“A (A) the plan fulfills the conditions specified in section 3 (11) and subsection (b) of this section and the appropriate titles of this Act;

“(B) he has made specific findings as to the compliance of such plan with requirements of this Act and he is satisfied that adequate procedures are subscribed to therein insure that any assurances and provisions of such plan will be carried out.

“(2) The State plan shall be made public as finally approved.

“(3) The Commissioner shall not finally disapprove any basic State plan submitted pursuant to subsection (a)(1), or any modification thereof, without first affording the State reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing.

“(d) The long-range program of any State for carrying out the purposes of this Act shall be developed in consultation with the Commissioner and shall—

“(1) set forth a program under which the funds received by the State under the programs authorized by this Act will be used to carry out a long-range program of library services and construction covering a period of not less than three nor more than five years;

“(2) be annually reviewed and revised in accordance with changing needs for assistance under this Act and the results of the evaluation and surveys of the State library administrative agency;

“(3) set forth policies and procedures (A) for the periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of programs and projects supported under this Act, and (B) for appropriate dissemination of the results of such evaluations and other information pertaining to such programs or projects; and
“(4) set forth effective policies and procedures for the coordination of programs and projects supported under this Act with library programs and projects operated by institutions of higher education or local elementary or secondary schools and with other public or private library services programs. Such program shall be developed with advice of the State advisory council and in consultation with the Commissioner and shall be made public as it is finally adopted.

“(e) Whenever the Commissioner, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing to the State agency administering a program submitted under this Act, finds—

“(1) that the program has been so changed that it no longer complies with the provisions of this Act, or

“(2) that in the administration of the program there is a failure to comply substantially with any such provisions or with any assurance or other provision contained in the basic State plan, then, until he is satisfied that there is no longer any such failure to comply, after appropriate notice to such State agency, he shall make no further payments to the State under this Act or shall limit payments to programs or projects under, or parts of, the programs not affected by the failure, or shall require that payments by such State agency under this Act shall be limited to local or other public library agencies not affected by the failure.

“(f) (1) If any State is dissatisfied with the Commissioner’s final action with respect to the approval of a plan submitted under this Act or with his final action under subsection (e) such State may, within sixty days after notice of such action, file with the United States court of appeals for the circuit in which such State is located a petition for review of that action. A copy of the petition shall be forthwith transmitted by the clerk of the court to the Commissioner. The Commissioner thereupon shall file in the court the record of the proceedings on which he based his action as provided in section 2112 of title 28, United States Code.

“(2) The findings of fact by the Commissioner, if supported by substantial evidence, shall be conclusive; but the court, for good cause shown, may remand the case to the Commissioner to take further evidence, and the Commissioner may thereupon take new or modified findings of fact and may modify his previous action, and shall certify to the court the record of further proceedings.

“(3) The court shall have jurisdiction to affirm the action of the Commissioner or to set it aside, in whole or in part. The judgment of the court shall be subject to review by the Supreme Court of the United States upon certiorari or certification as provided in section 1254 of title 28, United States Code.

“PAYMENTS TO STATES

“Sec. 7. (a) From the allotments available therefor under section 5 from appropriations pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of sections 4(a), the Commissioner shall pay to each State which has a basic State plan approved under section 6(a) (1), an annual program and a long-range program as defined in sections 3 (12) and (13) an amount equal to the Federal share of the total sums expended by the State and its political subdivisions in carrying out such plan, except that no payments shall be made from appropriations pursuant to such paragraph (1) for the purposes of title I to any State (other than the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) for any fiscal year unless the Commissioner determines that—
“(1) there will be available for expenditure under the programs from State and local sources during the fiscal year for which the allotment is made—

“(A) sums sufficient to enable the State to receive for the purpose of carrying out the programs payments in an amount not less than the minimum allotment for that State for the purpose, and

“(B) not less than the total amount actually expended, in the areas covered by the programs for such year, for the purposes of such programs from such sources in the second preceding fiscal year; and

“(2) there will be available for expenditure for the purposes of the programs from State sources during the fiscal year for which the allotment is made not less than the total amount actually expended for such purposes from such sources in the second preceding fiscal year.

“(b) (1) For the purpose of this section, the ‘Federal share’ for any State shall be, except as is provided otherwise in title III, 100 per centum less the State percentage, and the State percentage shall be that percentage which bears the same ratio to 50 per centum as the per capita income of such State bears to the per capita income of all the States (excluding Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands), except that (A) the Federal share shall in no case be more than 66 per centum, or less than 33 per centum, and (B) the Federal share for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands shall be 66 per centum, and (C) the Federal share for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands shall be 100 per centum.

“(2) The ‘Federal share’ for each State shall be promulgated by the Commissioner within sixty days after the beginning of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971, and of every second fiscal year thereafter, on the basis of the average per capita incomes of each of the States and of all the States (excluding Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands), for the three most recent consecutive years for which satisfactory data are available to him from the Department of Commerce. Such promulgation shall be conclusive for each of the two fiscal years beginning after the promulgation.

“TITLE I—LIBRARY SERVICES

“GRANTS FOR STATES FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

“Sec. 101. The Commissioner shall carry out a program of making grants from sums appropriated pursuant to section 4(a)(1) to States which have had approved basic State plans under section 6 and have submitted annual programs under section 103 for the extension of public library services to areas without such services and the improvement of such services in areas in which such services are inadequate, for making library services more accessible to persons who, by reason of distance, residence, or physical handicap, or other disadvantage, are unable to receive the benefits of public library services regularly made available to the public, for adapting public library services to meet particular needs of persons within the States, and for improving and strengthening library administrative agencies.
"USES OF FEDERAL FUNDS"

"Sec. 102. (a) Funds appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) of section 4(a) shall be available for grants to States from allotments under section 5(a) for the purpose of paying the Federal share of the cost of carrying out State plans submitted and approved under section 6 and section 103. Except as is provided in subsection (b), grants to States under this title may be used solely—

"(1) for planning for, and taking other steps leading to the development of, programs and projects designed to extend and improve library services, as provided in clause (2); and

"(2) for (A) extending public library services to geographical areas and groups of persons without such services and improving such services in such areas and for such groups as may have inadequate public library services; and (B) establishing, expanding, and operating programs and projects to provide (i) State institutional library services, (ii) library services to the physically handicapped, and (iii) library services for the disadvantaged in urban and rural areas; and (C) strengthening metropolitan public libraries which serve as national or regional resource centers.

"(b) Subject to such limitations and criteria as the Commissioner shall establish by regulation, grants to States under this title may be used (1) to pay the cost of administering the State plans submitted and approved under this Act (including obtaining the services of consultants), statewide planning for and evaluation of library services, dissemination of information concerning library services, and the activities of such advisory groups and panels as may be necessary to assist the State library administrative agency in carrying out its functions under this title, and (2) for strengthening the capacity of State library administrative agencies for meeting the needs of the people of the States.

"STATE ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY SERVICES"

"Sec. 103. Any State desiring to receive a grant from its allotment for the purposes of this title for any fiscal year shall, in addition to having submitted, and having had approved, a basic State plan under section 6, submit for that fiscal year an annual program for library services. Such program shall be submitted at such time, in such form, and contain such information as the Commissioner may require by regulation, and shall—

"(1) set forth a program for the year submitted under which funds paid to the State from appropriations pursuant to paragraph (1) of section 4(a) for that year will be used, consistent with its long-range program, solely for the purposes set forth in section 102;

"(2) set forth the criteria used in allocating such funds among such purposes, which criteria shall insure that the State will expend from Federal, State, and local sources an amount not less than the amount expended by the State from such sources for State institutional library services, and library services to the physically handicapped during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971;

"(3) include such information, policies, and procedures as will assure that the activities to be carried out during that year are consistent with the long-range program; and

"(4) include an extension of the long-range program, taking into consideration the results of evaluations."
"TITLE II—PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION

"GRANTS TO STATES FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION

"Sec. 201. The Commissioner shall carry out a program of making grants to States which have had approved a basic State plan under section 6 and have submitted a long-range program and submit annually appropriately updated programs under section 203 for the construction of public libraries.

"USES OF FEDERAL FUNDS

"Sec. 202. Funds appropriated pursuant to paragraph (2) of section 4(a) shall be available for grants to States from allotments under section 5(a) for the purpose of paying the Federal share of the cost of construction projects carried under State plans. Such grants shall be used solely for the construction of public libraries under approved State plans.

"STATE ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

"Sec. 203. Any State desiring to receive a grant from its allotment for the purpose of this title for any fiscal year shall, in addition to having submitted, and having had approved, a basic State plan under section 6, submit such projects as the State may approve and are consistent with its long-range program.

"Such projects shall be submitted at such time and contain such information as the Commissioner may require by regulation and shall—

"(1) for the year submitted under which funds are paid to the State from appropriations pursuant to paragraph (2) of section 4(a) for that year, be used, consistent with the State's long-range program, for the construction of public libraries in areas of the State which are without the library facilities necessary to provide adequate library services;

"(2) follow the criteria, policies, and procedures for the approval of applications for the construction of public library facilities under the long-range program;

"(3) follow policies and procedures which will insure that every local or other public agency whose application for funds under the plan with respect to a project for construction of public library facilities is denied will be given an opportunity for a hearing before the State library administrative agency;

"(4) include an extension of the long-range program taking into consideration the results of evaluations.

"TITLE III—INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION

"GRANTS TO STATES FOR INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION PROGRAMS

"Sec. 301. The Commissioner shall carry out a program of making grants to States which have an approved basic State plan under section 6 and have submitted a long-range program and an annual program under section 303 for interlibrary cooperation programs.
"USES OF FEDERAL FUNDS"

"Sec. 302. (a) Funds appropriated pursuant to paragraph (3) of section 4(a) shall be available for grants to States from allotments under paragraphs (1) and (3) of section 5(a) for the purpose of carrying out the Federal share of the cost of carrying out State plans submitted and approved under section 303. Such grants shall be used (1) for planning for, and taking other steps leading to the development of, cooperative library networks; and (2) for establishing, expanding, and operating local, regional, and interstate cooperative networks of libraries, which provide for the systematic and effective coordination of the resources of school, public, academic, and special libraries and information centers for improved supplementary services for the special clientele served by each type of library or center.

"(b) For the purposes of this title, the Federal share shall be 100 per centum of the cost of carrying out the State plan.

"STATE ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION"

"Sec. 303. Any State desiring to receive a grant from its allotment for the purposes of this title for any fiscal year shall, in addition to having submitted, and having had approved, a basic State plan under section 6, submit for that fiscal year an annual program for interlibrary cooperation. Such program shall be submitted at such time, in such form, and contain such information as the Commissioner may require by regulation and shall—

"(1) set forth a program for the year submitted under which funds paid to the State from appropriations pursuant to paragraph (3) of section 4(a) will be used, consistent with its long-range program for the purposes set forth in section 302,

"(2) include an extension of the long-range program taking into consideration the results of evaluations."

(c) (1) The amendment made by subsection (b) shall be effective after June 30, 1971.

(2) In the case of funds appropriated to carry out programs under the Library Services and Construction Act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971, each State is authorized, in accordance with regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to use a portion of its allotment for the development of such plans as may be required by such Act, as amended by subsection (b).

AMENDMENTS TO THE ADULT EDUCATION ACT

Sec. 3. (a) Effective on and after July 1, 1969, section 305(a) of the Adult Education Act is amended—

(1) by striking out in the first sentence "any fiscal year" and inserting in lieu thereof "the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, and for any succeeding fiscal year"; and

(2) by inserting at the end thereof the following new sentence:
"From the sums available for purposes of section 304(b) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and the succeeding fiscal year, the Commissioner shall make allotments in accordance with section 305(a) of the Adult Education Act of 1966 as in effect on June 30, 1969."

(b) Section 312(b) of the Adult Education Act is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new sentence: "For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and the succeeding fiscal year, nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the use of any amounts appropriated pursuant to this Act to pay such costs, subject to such limitations as the Commissioner may prescribe."

Approved December 30, 1970.