

Changes to Library Maintenance of Effort Enacted in 2009

Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 134.34, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Local support levels.** (a) A regional library basic system support grant shall be made to any regional public library system where there are at least three participating counties and where each participating city and county is providing for public library service support the lesser of (a) an amount equivalent to .82 percent of the average of the adjusted net tax capacity of the taxable property of that city or county, as determined by the commissioner of revenue for the second, third, and fourth year preceding that calendar year in 1991 and later years or (b) a per capita amount calculated under the provisions of this subdivision. The per capita amount is established for calendar year 1993 as \$7.62. In succeeding calendar years, the per capita amount shall be increased by a percentage equal to one-half of the percentage by which the total state adjusted net tax capacity of property as determined by the commissioner of revenue for the second year preceding that calendar year increases over that total adjusted net tax capacity for the third year preceding that calendar year.

(b) The minimum level of support specified under this subdivision or subdivision 4 shall be certified annually to the participating cities and counties by the Department of Education. If a city or county chooses to reduce its local support in accordance with subdivision 4, paragraphs (b) or (c), it shall notify its regional public library system. The regional public library system shall notify the Department of Education that a revised certification is required. The revised minimum level of support shall be certified to the city or county by the Department of Education.

(c) A city which is a part of a regional public library system shall not be required to provide this level of support if the property of that city is already taxable by the county for the support of that regional public library system. In no event shall the Department of Education require any city or county to provide a higher level of support than the level of support specified in this section in order for a system to qualify for a regional library basic system support grant. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a city or county from providing a higher level of support for public libraries than the level of support specified in this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for calendar years 2009 and later, except that the change in paragraph (a) is effective for calendar years 2011 and later.

Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 134.34, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Limitation.** (a) For calendar year 2010 and later, a regional library basic system support grant shall not be made to a regional public library system for a participating city or county which decreases the dollar amount provided for support for operating purposes of public library service below the amount provided by it for the second, or third preceding year, whichever is less. For purposes of this subdivision and subdivision 1, any funds provided under section 473.757, subdivision 2, for extending library hours of operation shall not be considered amounts provided by a city or county for support for operating purposes of public library service. This subdivision shall not apply to participating cities or counties where the adjusted net tax capacity of that city or county has decreased, if the dollar amount of the reduction in support is not greater than the dollar amount by which support would be decreased if the reduction in support were made in direct proportion to the decrease in adjusted net tax capacity.

(b) For calendar year 2009 and later, in any calendar year in which a city's or county's aid under sections 477A.011 to 477A.014 or credits under section 273.1384 is reduced after the city or county has certified its levy payable in that year, it may reduce its local support by the lesser of:

(1) ten percent; or

(2) a percent equal to the ratio of the aid and credit reductions to the city's or county's revenue base, based on aids certified for the current calendar year. For calendar year 2009 only, the reduction under this paragraph shall be based on 2008 aid and credit reductions under the December 2008 unallotment, as well as any aid and credit reductions in calendar year 2009. For pay 2009 only, the commissioner of revenue will calculate the reductions under this paragraph and certify them to the commissioner of education within 15 days of this provision becoming law.

(c) For taxes payable in 2010 and later, in any payable year in which the total amounts certified for city or county aids under sections 477A.011 to 477A.014 are less than the total amounts paid under those sections in the previous calendar year, a city or county may reduce its local support by the lesser of:

(1) ten percent; or

(2) a percent equal to the ratio of:

(i) the difference between (A) the sum of the aid it was paid under sections 477A.011 to 477A.014 and the credits it received under section 273.1398 in the previous calendar year and (B) the sum of the aid it is certified to be paid in the current calendar year under sections 477A.011 to 477A.014 and the credits estimated to be paid under section 273.1398; to

(ii) its revenue base for the previous year, based on aids actually paid in the previous calendar year. The commissioner of revenue shall calculate the percent aid cut for each county and city under this paragraph and certify the percentage cuts to the commissioner of education by August 1 of the year prior to the year in which the reduced aids and credits are to be paid. The percentage of reduction related to reductions to credits under section 273.1384, shall be based on the best estimation available as of July 30.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), (b), or (c), no city or county shall reduce its support for public libraries below the minimum level specified in subdivision 1.

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, "revenue base" means the sum of:

(1) its levy for taxes payable in the current calendar year, including the levy on the fiscal disparities distribution under section 276A.06, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), or 473F.08, subdivision 3, paragraph (a);

(2) its aid under sections 477A.011 to 477A.014 in the current calendar year; and

(3) its taconite aid in the current calendar year under sections 298.28 and 298.282.

EFFECTIVE DATE.This section is effective for support in calendar year 2009 and thereafter and for library grants paid in fiscal year 2010 and thereafter, except that the changes in paragraph (a) are effective for support in calendar year 2010 and thereafter.