

2021 Active Proposed Library Bills

Providing COVID support and relief through academic, public, school and special libraries across the state.

Basic Library System Support (RLBSS)

Increased funding of \$2M for
Regional Public Library Systems and
a corresponding formula change.

Bill Numbers: SF 1131/HF 1710
Chief Authors: Senator Mark Johnson,
Representative Dan Wolgamott

Impact

- An increase in access to vital technology and broadband
- An increase in support for PreK-12 students, their families and lifelong learners
- Expanded partnerships with schools, businesses and government agencies
- An increase in capacity to provide sufficient library resources, materials and hours of operation to our communities
- An increase in services to enhance library, literacy and workforce assistance to help Minnesotans advance skills and reach employment goals

Legacy Funding

Support for an annual appropriation of
\$2.5M for Regional Public Library Systems
and \$125,000 for Minnesota Center for the
Book from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.
Total Appropriation: \$2,625,000

SF 1832 /HF 1945
Chief Authors: Senator Bill Weber,
Representative Mary Murphy

Impact

- Equal access to arts, history, culture and literature through the 12 public regional library systems and the Minnesota Center for the Book.
- A connection to Minnesota's rich history and culture.
- A celebration and recognition of Minnesota's artists, authors and historians.
- An improved quality of life for individuals and enhanced community engagement.

School Libraries and Media Centers Policy Change

Support for defining a school library
or media center as having an onsite,
centralized collection of resources ensuring
equitable access to materials and to
employ a licensed school library media
specialist.

SF 1477/HF 1856
Chief Authors: Senator Mary Kunesh,
Representative Sandra Feist

Note: This language is also included in
HF950/SF788 (Article 7, Sec. 2).

Impact

- Improved access to technology, books, and educational resources for students, teachers and administrators via a centrally housed, equitable, onsite collection of print and nonprint library materials and resources.
- Improved instruction including digital literacy, collaboration and co teaching, professional development for educators, participation in school-wide technology planning and integration, and support in the ethical use of information.