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Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2006 8:06 AM

To: ILA members

Subject: School Libraries Back in Code!!!!

Importance: High

YOU DID IT!!!

The House just amended an Education Bill (HF 2792) to reinstate the school librarian requirement into Code! It then passed unanimously. That's right – it's now in the bill and its on its way to becoming the law again. One caveat - they did grandfather in those non-certified school librarians already employed by schools, a part of the compromise to make sure people don't lose their jobs. It is our understanding that the Governor's office and of course First Lady Christie Vilsack would not agree to an education package without this provision. Long-time supporters like Sen. Mike Connolly, Sen. Bob Dvorsky, Rep. Mary Mascher & Rep. Cindy Winckler continued to put pressure on their leaders to make sure this was included in the package. Below is the language included in the amendment (H-8635) – the bill has to bounce back to the Senate for approval before being sent to the Governor (but we fully anticipate this package to stay together).

1 19 Sec. 2. Section 256.11, Code Supplement 2005, is
1 20 amended by adding the following new subsection:
1 21 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. Beginning July 1, 2006, each
1 22 school district shall have a qualified teacher
1 23 librarian who shall be licensed by the board of
1 24 educational examiners under chapter 272. The state
1 25 board shall establish in rule a definition of and
1 26 standards for an articulated sequential kindergarten
1 27 through grade twelve media program. A school district
1 28 that entered into a contract with an individual
1 29 for employment as a media specialist or librarian
1 30 prior to June 1, 2006, shall be considered
1 31 to be in compliance with this subsection until the
1 32 individual leaves the employ of the school district.
1 33 Sec. 3. Section 256.11A, Code 2005, is amended to
1 34 read as follows:
1 35 256.11A ~~-GUIDANCE PROGRAM~~ TEACHER LIBRARIAN ==

1 36-MEDIA SERVICES PROGRAM == WAIVER.
1 37 1. ~~Schools and school districts unable to meet the~~
1 38 ~~standard adopted by the state board requiring each~~
1 39 ~~school or school district operating a kindergarten~~
1 40 ~~through grade twelve program to provide an articulated~~
1 41 ~~sequential elementary= secondary guidance program~~ The
1 42 board of directors of a school district may, not later
1 43 than August 1, ~~1995~~ 2006, for the school year
1 44 beginning July 1, ~~1995~~ 2006, file a written request to
1 45 the department of education that the department waive
1 46 the requirement ~~for~~ adopted by the state board
1 47 pursuant to section 256.11, subsection 9, that school
1 48 ~~or~~ the school district have a qualified teacher
1 49 librarian. The procedures specified in subsection 3
1 50 apply to the request. Not later than August 1, ~~1996~~
2 1 2007, for the school year beginning July 1, ~~1996~~ 2007,
2 2 the board of directors of a school district ~~or the~~
2 3 ~~authorities in charge of a nonpublic school~~ may
2 4 request a one-year extension of the waiver.
2 5 ~~2. Not later than August 1, 1995, for the school~~
2 6 ~~year beginning July 1, 1995, the board of directors of~~
2 7 ~~a school district, or authorities in charge of a~~
2 8 ~~nonpublic school, may file a written request with the~~
2 9 ~~department of education that the department waive the~~
2 10 ~~rule adopted by the state board to establish and~~
2 11 ~~operate a media services program to support the total~~
2 12 ~~curriculum for that district or school. The~~
2 13 ~~procedures specified in subsection 3 apply to the~~
2 14 ~~request. Not later than August 1, 1996, for the~~
2 15 ~~school year beginning July 1, 1996, the board of~~
2 16 ~~directors of a school district or the authorities in~~
2 17 ~~charge of a nonpublic school may request an additional~~
2 18 ~~one-year extension of the waiver.~~
2 19 ~~3. 2.~~ 2. A request for a waiver filed by the board
2 20 of directors of a school district ~~or authorities in~~
2 21 ~~charge of a nonpublic school~~ shall describe actions
2 22 being taken by the district ~~or school~~ to meet the
2 23 requirement for which the district ~~or school~~ has
2 24 requested a waiver.