

SE-7

State Agencies, Systems, and Cooperatives Section
October 31, 2003

Funding Status of State Agencies, Systems, and Cooperatives in MPLA States

Arizona - The Arizona State Library lost \$2.2 million and 16 positions in the latest downturn of the economy.

Colorado - \$6,500,000 in cuts were made from June 2002 - June 2003. The Colorado Resource Center was eliminated. State Funding for Libraries was eliminated. Payment for Lending was eliminated. New materials for institutional libraries were eliminated. One institutional library and several institutional staff were eliminated. New materials for Talking Book Library were eliminated. Funding for the Colorado Virtual Library was reduced. Funding for the seven multitype Regional Service Systems was eliminated, but a small one-time grant was provided. This reduced the 2003-04 systems funding by 77%, with more than half of systems' staff eliminated. One system closed. No funding is anticipated for next year.

Kansas - \$354,638 was cut from FY 2003 state aid to local libraries from the total of approx \$3.6 million, somewhat less than 10%. \$96,750 was lost out of 2003 operating funds, approximately 6%. For current year FY 2004 about half of each of the 03 reductions, (\$150,000 state aid and \$50,000 operating) will be lost but revenues are improving so some of the 04 losses might be restored.

Montana - For 2004 Federation support was reduced by \$79,217; interlibrary loan reimbursements reduced by \$127,000; and per capita/per square mile funding reduced by \$12,675. The Montana State Library's staff is reduced by two FTE, materials reduced by \$44,150; administration reduced by \$10,081; and National Resources Information System/Heritage project reduced by \$37,500.

Nebraska - The Nebraska State Library's received a cut of \$139,215 (10%) per year from its Aid to Libraries and \$58,845 per year (2.7%) from operations, for a total of \$198,060 (5.5%) per year for the two years beginning July 1, 2003.

Oklahoma - The Oklahoma Department of Libraries experienced cuts adding up to \$540,976 or 7.85 percent of their state appropriations during FY 2003 and (so far) a further \$184,163 or 2.9 percent cut for FY 2004. As part of these cuts, state aid to public libraries was cut 5.5% for FY 2003, and the department cut expenses to the bone, but without having to eliminate major programs or forfeit LSTA funds. The Oklahoma Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped came close to being eliminated for FY 2004, but escaped with a budget reduction.

Nevada - The Nevada legislature approved a \$780,000 grant program for school libraries and \$500,000 for the statewide databases. They did not approve \$1.2 million for the public library grant program. Those three areas are administered through the State Library and partly through the state Department of Education.

New Mexico - Although New Mexico has been threatened and although the State Library's budget has been "flat" for two years (making an effective budget cut of 8-10%), state aid has not been cut.

North Dakota - The North Dakota State Library received funding at the 95% level for the general fund, making it a 5% reduction for the biennium beginning July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2005. Cuts in funding were mainly across the board with specific large cuts to salaries and state aid grants.

South Dakota - South Dakota does not have systems or regional libraries. The hardest hit libraries have been county funded libraries because of a tax freeze initiative that was passed more than 10 years ago. The results so far are one county that has withdrawn all support for library services, one county that is part of a two county bookmobile library that has almost completely eliminated funding, and one county that has reduced funding to the point that the budget

pays salaries and keeps the lights on, but that is all. The State Library is holding its own but inflation translates no increases to losses.

Wyoming - Due to prudent management and gas and oil severance taxes, the State of Wyoming has a budget surplus. The State Library has not experienced any budget cuts.