

VLA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 2002 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

Perspective: The following items constitute the Legislative Agenda of the Virginia Library Association for the FY 2002 General Assembly Session. Because of the interconnectedness of the missions of the Library of Virginia and the library community, full funding of State Aid, Infopowering and the Library of Virginia's budget are listed first – and will require budget amendments.

Connected to the LVA budget is the restitution of construction funds for public libraries. No funds are being sought at this time.

The remaining issues indicate areas of support for allied organizations and the need to monitor legislative initiatives.

1. **State Aid for Public Libraries**

VLA will continue to support full funding of State Aid.

Full Funding:	\$22,062,162
Budgeted:	\$20,485,543

Additional Required:	\$1,576,619
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2. **Infopowering**

VLA will continue to strengthen its relationship with the Governor's Office in order to make libraries a perennial factor in the budget. VLA, in conjunction with VPLDA, will market the success and usefulness of Infopowering to state and local funding authorities and to the media, with the goal of restoring in FY 2003 the funds that were cut from the FY 2002 appropriation and to phase-in full funding of the Infopowering initiative in fiscal years 2004-2006.

Full Funding	\$3,200,000
Budgeted:	\$1,600,000

Additional Required: \$1,600,000

3. Library of Virginia Budget

VLA will continue to support the LVA requests for increased funding of the LVA operating budget, as developed by the LVA staff and Board, and will work to keep a close relationship between the public library community and the LVA Board and administration.

Full Funding	\$450,000
Collection Development	\$335,000
Records Management	\$140,000

Additional Funding Required: \$925,000

4. Library Capital/Construction Funding

VLA will work in the future to restore funding of the Library Construction Grants program which was given its initial funding by the 2000 General Assembly for the coming biennium.

5. Support VIVA and other academic library initiatives.

6. Support for reapproval of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council.

7. Internet Access

VLA will continue to monitor any proposed legislation, which would seek to regulate Internet/electronic access at the State rather than local policy level.

8. Sales Tax

VLA will work to maintain the sales tax exemptions enjoyed by Friends organizations both as to the sale of items and the purchase of items.

