



Legislative Agenda 2006

Priorities For Funding

- **State Aid for Public Libraries**
State Aid is currently funded at \$16.3M. \$24.7M is needed to fully fund the state aid formula. For FY 2007 VLA is requesting an additional \$2.8M. For FY 2008 VLA is requesting an additional \$2.8M (\$5.6M more than FY 06). This is part of a three-year plan to fully fund the state aid formula in FY 2009.
- **Infopowering – Electronic Resources Through *FIND IT VIRGINIA!***
Find It Virginia provides a core electronic database collection of full text reference works, magazines/newspaper articles for **ALL** public libraries, K-12 and Community Colleges. VLA is requesting \$1M for FY 2007 to expand these resources. These funds will provide additional resources to all Virginians including after school homework help for students.
- **Public Library Construction**
Many public libraries throughout the Commonwealth are in need of new or expanded facilities. VLA is requesting \$400,000 in FY 2007 for a program to provide grants to assist public libraries in the construction of new or expanded facilities.
- **Library of Virginia**
The Library of Virginia provides vital assistance to libraries throughout the Commonwealth. It also serves as Virginia's library, housing records and documents of importance to all citizens. VLA strongly supports the budget request of the Library of Virginia to the Virginia General Assembly for FY 2007 and FY 2008.

Legislation

- **Internet Access**
Public Internet access in public libraries is regulated through locally developed and approved acceptable use policies. VLA strongly supports this existing policy
- **Public Librarian Certification**
The Library of Virginia Board has approved changes to the Public Librarian Certification process. VLA strongly supports these changes.
- **Public Library Director Requirements**
Currently library directors of libraries serving a population of more than 13,000 are required to have an accredited MLS Degree in order for their libraries to receive full state aid payments. VLA strongly supports this existing policy.
- **State Aid For Public Libraries**
The Library of Virginia is conducting a study of public library service in Virginia. Until the completion of this study, and discussion of its recommendations by the public library community, VLA will oppose any change to the current formula used for the distribution of state aid to public libraries.

Support for Other Initiatives/Funding:

- VIVA and other Academic Library Initiatives
- Virginia Educational Media Association
- Virginia Association of Law Librarians