

National Library Legislative Day 2007

Introduction

On May 1 & 2, 2007, librarians of all kinds, as well as trustees, library supporters are invited to Washington, DC, for an event like no other: **National Library Legislative Day** (NLLD).

NLLD is a two-day event in which people who care about libraries participate in advocacy and issue training sessions, interact with Capitol Hill insiders, and visit congressional member offices to ask Congress to pass legislation that supports libraries.

National Library Legislative Day is sponsored by the American Library Association, District of Columbia Library Association, and Special Libraries Association.

On Monday, April 30, there will be a pre-conference event sponsored by the Association of Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTA), and the ALA Washington Office. The event -- entitled "Introduction to National Library Legislative Day: Why Your Participation is Important; What to Do and How to Do It" -- is designed to provide tips on how to make an impact during Hill visits and to help with the organization of presentations to your legislators.

Briefing Day, Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Where:

Holiday Inn on the Hill
415 New Jersey Ave., NW.
Washington, DC. 20001
(202) 638-1616 or 800-638-1116.

Description:

This full day of issue briefings will inform and prepare participants for congressional visits the next day, May 2nd.

Capitol Hill Office Visits, Wednesday, May 2, 2007

Where:

Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

Metro stop:

Union Station on the Red Line or Capitol South on the Orange Line

Description:

The day will begin with a short briefing and send-off for participants. Congressional office visits follow the send-off where you distribute the background kits/issue folders, personalized with stories and descriptions of programs in your states. We urge you to personalize your folders with handouts that describe your local programs and library stories to give to your congressional representative-local stories are most persuasive to Congressional members.

There will be a wrap-up session late in the day for state coordinators to discuss the visits and your experiences throughout the day followed by a Congressional Reception.

Potential issues for Montana Congressional visits:

- Federal funding – Library Services Technology Act monies – Montana received approximately one million dollars last year
- Civil liberties, Intellectual freedom and Privacy – CIPA, Patriot Act -The primary area of concern has been filtering and the laws that have attempted to mandate federal filtering requirements in order to receive federally authorized funding such as E-rate discounts and LSTA funds.
- Copyright
- Disaster Preparedness
- Early Childhood
- Government Information
- School Libraries
- Technology, the Internet, and Telecommunications.

More details on this event see:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nlld2007.htm>