



MEMO

To: Montana State Library Commission
From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian
Subject: 2023 Legislative update
Date: November 26, 2022

The Governor's Office approved our two legislative requests:

LC 0344 reauthorizes per capital/per square mile state aid to public libraries, increases the per capital amount from \$.40 to \$.50 based the decennial census, and makes accredited tribal college libraries that meet public library standards, eligible to receive state aid.

[LC0344.pdf \(mt.gov\)](#)

LC 0352 creates the Montana State Reference Network Enterprise Fund, authorizes the State Library to operate the network and to establish rules for its operation.

[LC0352.pdf \(mt.gov\)](#)

Additionally, included in the Governor's budget is the State Library's request to realign our Federal Budget Authority. The request to include one-time-only appropriation from the Montana Land Information Account to provide continued funding to the Montana State Reference Network is pending.