

SENATE No. 1521

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, July 15, 1970.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was committed the House Bill further regulating state aid for free public libraries (House, No. 5819), reports, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment, substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 1521).

For the committee,

ANDREA F. NUCIFORO.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING STATE AID FOR FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The first paragraph of section 19A of chapter
2 78 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
3 clauses (1) and (2), as appearing in section 1 of chapter 760
4 of the acts of 1960, and inserting in place thereof the follow-
5 ing clauses: —

6 (1) To each town having a population of less than two
7 thousand, a sum equivalent to the amount appropriated by it
8 for free public library service during the preceding year, but
9 in no event more than one thousand dollars;

10 (2) To each city and to each town having a population of
11 two thousand or more, a sum not exceeding thirty-seven and
12 one-half cents for each resident therein; provided, that such
13 city or town appropriated during the preceding year for its
14 free public library service at least one thousand dollars.

1 SECTION 2. The second paragraph of said section 19A of
2 said chapter 78, as so appearing, is hereby amended by strik-
3 ing out, in line 2, the word "three" and inserting in place
4 thereof the word: — six.

1 SECTION 3. Said chapter 78 is hereby further amended by
2 striking out section 19C, as so appearing, and inserting in
3 place thereof the following section: —

4 *Section 19C.* The board shall establish a comprehensive
5 state-wide program of regional public library service, con-
6 sisting of regional public library systems, which shall not
7 exceed five. For such purpose there shall be appropriated
8 annually an amount equal to thirty-seven and one-half cents

9 for each resident in each regional area for which such a
10 regional library system is established. The board shall apply
11 said appropriation in the following manner: —

12 (1) In so far as practicable the board shall enter into an
13 arrangement or arrangements with such public library or
14 libraries in each regional area as it may determine under the
15 terms of which such library or libraries shall supply services
16 or space, equipment, personnel, books, periodicals and other
17 library materials to communities having fewer than twenty-
18 five thousand inhabitants;

19 (2) Said board shall also designate such public library or
20 libraries in each area or an additional such public library or
21 libraries in the area to serve as a regional reference and re-
22 search center or centers to meet the reference and research
23 library needs of the residents of all the cities and towns in
24 the area; the amount allocated for such reference and re-
25 search service to be applied only to the cost of such reference
26 and research books, periodicals and other library materials
27 and to the cost of the personnel employed in such reference
28 and research service;

29 (3) Any library system providing service under an ap-
30 proved plan shall be entitled to receive annually in state aid
31 an amount per capita of its served population per square mile
32 of the area served in accordance with the following schedule: —

33	Over 1,000 population	40 cents per capita
34	750-999 population	40 cents per capita
35	500-749 population	50 cents per capita
36	Under 500 population	50 cents per capita;

37 (4) In addition to the sums provided in clause (3), the
38 Boston public library as the library of last recourse for refer-
39 ence and research services for the commonwealth shall be
40 entitled to receive in state aid the sum of two and one-half
41 cents per annum for each resident in the commonwealth.

1 SECTION 4. Section 19D of said chapter 78, as so appearing,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after the word "librarian", in
3 line 2, the words: — or one trustee to be so designated by
4 the board of trustees.

1 SECTION 5. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of sec-

tion nineteen A of chapter seventy-eight of the General Laws inserted by section one of this act, the amount which the state treasurer shall pay to cities and towns on or before July first, nineteen hundred and seventy-one under the provisions of said section nineteen A shall not exceed one million, nine hundred and five thousand dollars.

SECTION 6. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of section nineteen C of chapter seventy-eight of the General Laws inserted by section three of this act, there shall be appropriated a sum not to exceed two million, one hundred and ninety-seven thousand dollars to regional library systems and an additional sum not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars to the Boston public library, as the library of last recourse for reference and research services for the commonwealth, for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and seventy-one, under the provisions of said section nineteen C, and that the sums appropriated shall be subject to the provisions of law regulating the disbursement of public funds and the approval thereof.