

By Ms. Donovan of Woburn, petition of Carol A. Donovan and other members of the General Court providing for legislation to provide funding for the restoration of the infrastructure of library services. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Three.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO RESTORING THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF LIBRARY SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Whereas*, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat
2 its purpose, which is to restore the infrastructure for library serv-
3 ices for residents of the Commonwealth, therefore it is hereby
4 declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public convenience to provide for the continu-
6 ation of funds for library programs that are of critical importance
7 to all residents, all libraries, regional library systems, automated
8 resource sharing networks and small 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. To provide for the continuation of funds for cer-
2 tain programs of the board of library commissioners including a
3 program of licensed databases to the 1700 member libraries of the
4 regional library systems and available through the Internet to
5 every resident of the Commonwealth; a program for the delivery
6 of over 5,000,000 books and library materials annually through
7 the regional delivery systems for the residents of the Common-
8 wealth; funds to equitably offset high speed telecommunications
9 costs to every public library in the Commonwealth; funds for
10 sixty-five small public libraries primarily in Central and Western
11 Massachusetts who would otherwise be unable to join an auto-
12 mated resource sharing network and thereby enable residents of
13 their municipalities the ability to access licensed databases and

14 other electronic information resources; funds for the Virtual
15 Catalog/Masscat which enables the residents of the Common-
16 wealth, school, public, special and academic libraries to quickly
17 and effectively access library holdings throughout the Common-
18 wealth; funds for the Journal Article Clearinghouse at the Boston
19 Public Library which provides requested magazine articles to
20 library users statewide.

1 SECTION 2. Provided further, that not more than three per cent
2 of the amount authorized herein may be expended by the board of
3 library commissioners for the administrative costs directly attrib-
4 utable to the projects funded herein, including the costs of tempo-
5 rary personnel; provided, however, that no permanent personnel
6 shall be compensated from this item; provided further, that said
7 board shall file an annual spending plan with the fiscal affairs
8 division and the house and senate committees on ways and means
9 which details, by subsidiary, all temporary personnel and adminis-
10 trative costs charged to this item. Said board shall be authorized to
11 expend three million two hundred and seventy five thousand dol-
12 lars per fiscal year for not more than three years . . . \$9,825,000.

1 SECTION 3. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying
2 out the provisions of section 1, the state treasurer shall, upon
3 request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the common-
4 wealth, in an amount to be specified by the governor from time to
5 time, but not exceeding, in the aggregate, the sum of \$9,825,000.
6 All bonds issued by the commonwealth, as aforesaid, shall be des-
7 ignated on their face, Restoring the Infrastructure For Library
8 Services For Residents of the Commonwealth Loan, Act of 2003.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.