**Health Science Librarians of Illinois Legislative Committee Report**

**Submitted by Kirstin Duffin & Carmen Howard, co-chairs**

**Covering: June 2017 to October 2017**

1. Committee Members Kirstin Duffin & Carmen Howard
2. Illinois Updates

* Funding:
  + Illinois Public Act 100-0021 passed July 6, 2017. This act (originally Senate Bill 6) included budget appropriations for FY 2017-18 and ended the multi-year budget impasse in our state. The bill did not address previous FY budgets.
  + Illinois Public Act 100-0465 passed August 31, 2017. This act (originally Senate Bill 1947) amended the School Code and changed the way that the state allocates funds to public schools.
  + House Bill 0339 (originally filed in January) has not seen much action but has recently added another sponsor.  This bill amends the Salaries Act and decreases the salaries of several political offices including the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state and many more.
* Hospitals/Medical Practice/Pharmacies:
  + House Bill 4109 was filed on October 6th and amends the EMS Systems Act related to stroke care and evidence-based guidelines.
  + House Bill 4096 was filed in September and has been adding sponsors.  This bill amends the Medical Assistance Article of the Illinois Public Aid Code related to pharmaceuticals.
  + New pharmacy information/counseling rules went into effect: <http://www.sj-r.com/news/20170818/new-pharmacy-rules-in-illinois-aim-to-improve-patient-safety>
  + The Illinois Health & Hospital Association supported refinancing Illinois’ debt: <http://www.ihatoday.org/uploadDocs/1/refinancingalert8-23-17.pdf>
  + The Illinois Health & Hospital Association published their Summary of Spring 2017 legislation: <http://www.ihatoday.org/uploadDocs/1/keybills2017springsession.pdf>
  + The Illinois Health & Hospital Association encouraged letting your state legislators know that you appreciate their work to pass the budget and provided advice on letter content:  <http://www.ihatoday.org/uploadDocs/1/statebudgetthankyou.pdf>
* Resources/Miscellaneous Announcements:
  + Resource Highlight: LegiScan tracks legislation in all 50 states and on the federal level.  It creates an easy to read dashboard of what is going on and points to the details for each new bill and/or amendment.  [Illinois Dashboard](https://legiscan.com/IL)
  + Resource Highlight: Under the Dome podcast now available from the State Journal-Register. <https://soundcloud.com/user-735325102/tracks>
  + Update on the Abraham Lincoln Museum & Library from The State Journal-Register: <http://www.sj-r.com/news/20170818/rauner-signs-bill-creating-agency-to-govern-alplm>
  + HR0631 was filed on October 10th and congratulates Dr. Sharon Smaga for receiving the “2017 Rural Physician of Excellence Award” from the Illinois Rural Health Association.

1. Federal Updates

* Funding:
  + The Senate Committee on Appropriations’ [FY18 Labor, HHS, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill](https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/news/majority/committee-approves-fy2018-labor-hhs-and-education-appropriations-bill) was approved in September 2017. Of note, the following agencies would see increases to their budgets:
    - NIH -- increase $2.0 billion, to $36.1 billion.
    - NLM -- increase $21 million, to $420.9 million.
    - IMLS -- increase $4 million, to $235 million. Monies are exclusively for the Grants to States program.

While an earlier FY18 budget proposed by the Trump administration would cut NIH funding by 18% and the IMLS by 100%, grassroots campaigns have led to congressional support of healthcare and libraries.

* + IMLS [Funding Reports by State](https://www.imls.gov/research-evaluation/surveys-data/imls-funding-reports-state) are available for FY2011-2016.
* New legislation:
* The American Health Care Act failed to garner sufficient votes to be passed.
  + Read about H.R. 1628 AHCA 2017 at [govtrack.us](https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr1628/summary). The section titled What’s the Bottom Line? has a quick summary of how the AHCA will impact individuals.
  + Paul Spitalnic, Chief Actuary for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, provides this June 13, 2017 memorandum: [Estimated Financial Effect of the AHCA 2017](https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Research/ActuarialStudies/Downloads/AHCA20170613.pdf).
  + Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act, or FASTR, [H.R. 3427](https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3427), would provide public access to research published from every federal agency that significantly funds research. This bill strengthens and expands previous legislation, requiring online access be made available more quickly.
  + In the Senate, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA) Modernization Act of 2017 would require a warrant for authorities to access emails, geo-location information in cell phones, documents in the cloud, and other electronic communication records. This bill builds on the Email Privacy Act, [H.R. 387](https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/387), passed in the House earlier this year.
* Net Neutrality:
  + On July 12, 2017, ALA joined almost 200 organizations in a Day of Action to Save Net Neutrality in response to the FCC’s vote to [roll back net neutrality regulations](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db0518/DOC-344948A1.pdf) established in 2015. Read [comments submitted to the FCC by ALA](http://www.districtdispatch.org/2017/07/ala-comments-filed-at-the-fcc/).
* Copyright:
  + The Register of Copyright has yet to be named. There is continuing discussion regarding whether the President of the United States should be given this authority. This [legislative update](http://crln.acrl.org/index.php/crlnews/article/view/16706/18195) from CR&L News outlines the positive actions Carla Hayden has taken since being appointed as Librarian of Congress.
  + IT modernization in the Copyright Office is moving forward, under the direction of Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden. The [Modified U.S. Copyright Office Provisional IT Modernization Plan](https://www.copyright.gov/reports/itplan/modified-modernization-plan.pdf) was released earlier this month.
* Federal Depository Library Program:
  + The MLA and American Association of Law Libraries submitted recommendations concerning the FDLP regarding modernization of public access to government information. A summary and link to the recommendations are [available from the MLA](https://mla.socious.com/p/cm/ld/fid=1122&&blogaid=1716). ALA President Jim Neal also provided comments; read more about his input from the [District Dispatch](http://www.districtdispatch.org/2017/09/dear-congress-heres-ensure-public-access-government-information/).