



**2021 OLA Virtual Conference April 20-23, 2021**  
**“Legislatively Speaking: 2021 Issues and Call to Action”**  
Handout

**OLA 2021 Legislative Priority Bills** *(as of 4/23/2021)*

1. [HB 5017](#) – Oregon State Library Budget Bill, which includes Ready to Read funding
  - a. Public hearing ([recording](#)) held February 10; oral and written [testimony](#) submitted on behalf of OLA and individually by several OLA members.
  - b. Awaiting additional action in Ways and Means.
  
2. [HB 2919](#) – Higher Ed Course Material Cost Transparency
  - a. Public hearing ([recording](#)) held February 25; oral and written testimony submitted on behalf of OLA-ACRL and Statewide Open Education Library Services, and individually by several students.
  - b. Passed House Floor unanimously.
  - c. Referred to Senate Education Committee and awaiting additional action.
  
3. ~~SB 552~~ now [SB 226](#) – Study on Education System of the State ([-4 Amendment](#)) addresses [School Library] Media Program Standards
  - a. SB 226 passed committee 3 – 2.
  - b. Referred to Ways and Means; no action scheduled yet.

4. [HB 5012](#) – Judicial Department Budget Bill, which includes funding for County Law Libraries
  - a. Public hearing ([recording](#)) held on April 14; oral and written [testimony](#) submitted on behalf of OLA and individually by OLA member.
  - b. Awaiting referral to Full Ways and Means Committee
5. [HB 3256](#) – Telecommunications Bill ([-5 Amendment](#) creates “Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund”)
  - a. Passed committee unanimously after public hearing and multiple work sessions.
  - b. Referred to Ways and Means; no action scheduled yet.

### Other Legislative Issues

Advocating for [American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\)](#) economic recovery funding (allocated to the State) to be dedicated to special districts, which includes special library districts.

- OLA letter to Governor Brown in support of fund allocations to special districts:  
[https://www.olaweb.org/assets/Legislative/21\\_04\\_07%20OLA%20Support%20for%20Special%20Library%20Districts%20and%20ARPA.pdf](https://www.olaweb.org/assets/Legislative/21_04_07%20OLA%20Support%20for%20Special%20Library%20Districts%20and%20ARPA.pdf)
- State of Oregon Newsroom, "Governor Kate Brown Announces 10-Point Economic Recovery Plan to Help Oregon Families and Businesses":  
<https://www.oregon.gov/newsroom/pages/NewsDetail.aspx?newsid=54384>
- KATU, "Oregon to get more than \$4 billion for state, local government from American Rescue Plan":  
<https://katu.com/news/following-the-money/oregon-to-get-more-than-4-billion-for-state-local-government-from-american-rescue-plan>

Promoting the [Build America's Libraries Act \(BALA\)](#), a bipartisan bill in Congress which would fund upgrades to the nation's library infrastructure.

- American Libraries Association, Build Americas Libraries:  
<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/buildlibraries>
- Eugene Register-Guard Op-Ed, “Libraries Are a Community’s Cornerstone” by Kate Lasky and Emily David:  
<https://www.olaweb.org/assets/Legislative/registerguard.com-Libraries%20are%20a%20communitys%20cornerstone%20%281%29.pdf>

# LDLC Resources

## OLA-LDLC website

<https://cutt.ly/OLA-Legislation-Committee>

and found under OLA Units → Committees → Library Development & Legislation

The screenshot shows the OLA Association website. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with links for Home, About OLA, Membership, Publications, Events, and OLA Units. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Library Development and Legislation Committee". The main content area includes a paragraph stating that the LDLC is a standing committee that exists to:

- Establish plans for improvement of libraries in Oregon through study and recommendation of plans for the use of state and federal funds, as well as through exploration of other sources of funding (e.g., foundation grants)
- Establish priorities for legislative action which may affect all types of libraries in Oregon

Below this, there is a section titled "Use the following links to navigate this page:" with two columns of links:

- Current Legislative Issue Briefs, Testimonies, and Statements
- Other Resources
- Library Legislative Week 2021
- Committee Members
- Past Legislative Issues & Briefs
- Meeting Dates 2020-2021

At the bottom, there is a section titled "Current Legislative Issue Briefs, Testimonies, and Statements" with two bullet points:

- Issue Brief: [Support Ready to Read funding as included in proposed State Library budget \(HB 5017\)](#) (Testimony, including from many individual OLA members)
- Issue Brief: [Support on-time adoption of course materials for higher-education students \(HB 2919\)](#) (Testimony, including from OLA)

## OLA's Engage website

*(Engage is a platform provided by ALA to every state's library association for legislative advocacy purposes)*

[cqrccengage.com/alaor](http://cqrccengage.com/alaor)

and currently linked to from OLA homepage (see "Take Action!" in right-hand navigation) AND LDLC website (see "Other Resources")

The screenshot shows the Oregon Library Association homepage. At the top left is the OLA logo, and at the top right are links for HOME and OLA WEBSITE. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Welcome**: A paragraph welcoming visitors to the Action Center and encouraging them to get involved. It mentions that OLA provides advocacy, education, leadership, and collaboration to strengthen Oregon's libraries and communities.
- Find your elected officials**: A section with a text input field and a "GO" button, intended for looking up elected officials and candidates by ZIP code.
- Subscribe to our mailing list**: A section with a text input field and a "GO" button, intended for providing an email address to receive updates on upcoming engagements.
- Learn the Legislation**: A section with a sub-section for "2021 Legislation" and a link to "Oregon - HB5017".
- Find us on Facebook**: A section featuring a Facebook widget for the Oregon Library Association, showing 1,818 likes.