

LEGISLATIVELY SPEAKING

2021 ISSUES AND CALL TO ACTION

Presenters:

Nicole Mann, OLA Lobbyist

Sue Ludington, OLA Library Development & Legislation
Committee Chair, 2020-21





WELCOME, INTRODUCTION, OBJECTIVES

WHO WE ARE & WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS



Amanda Dalton

Legislative Advocate
Dalton Advocacy, Inc.



Nicole Mann

Legislative Advocate
Dalton Advocacy, Inc.



Sue Ludington

Chair, 2020-2021
OLA Library Development & Legislative Committee (LDLC)

OBJECTIVES

- Overview of the **2021 Legislative Session**
- 2021 Legislative **bills and committees of interest to OLA**
- Advocacy **guidance and tips for communicating** with legislators
- **Opportunities for OLA member action** this year



2021 OLA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

OVERVIEW & ISSUES

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021

2021 OREGON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (OLA) VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW

LEGISLATURE COMPRISED OF:

- **SENATE = 30 members**
 - 18 Democrats
 - 10 Republicans
 - 2 Independents
- **HOUSE = 60 members**
 - 37 Democrats
 - 23 Republicans

IMPORTANT BILL DEADLINES:

- May 14: Bills must be scheduled for Work Session in 2nd Chamber
- May 28: Bills must move out of policy committee in 2nd Chamber
- **June 18: TARGET SINE DIE**

LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW

SESSION BY THE NUMBERS

- 14 Weeks in session
- 2,469 Bills introduced (!!!)
- 20 or 21 Committees meetings daily
- 171 Weekly hours of committee hearings
- 34 Average daily hours of committee hearings

LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW

OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO OLA:

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

- 18 Bills of interest identified at beginning of session
- 11 Bills still alive
- 7 Active bills
- 5 Priority bills

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

- Joint Committee on Ways and Means
 - Subcommittee on General Government (*State Library/RTR*)
 - Subcommittee on Public Safety (*county law libraries*)
- House and Senate Committees on Education (*cost transparency of higher ed course materials, school library media program standards*)



ISSUE #1: HOUSE BILL 5017

STATE LIBRARY BUDGET/READY TO READ

ISSUE #1: HB 5017 - STATE LIBRARY BUDGET/READY TO READ

- State Library Budget bill; includes **funding for Ready to Read (RTR) grants** to local libraries
- OLA supported Governor's Recommended Budget (maintaining State Library's budget), including RTR at \$1,586,812 or \$1.08 per child.
- OLA **asked for additional investment** above Recommended Budget, and gave **examples of potential positive impacts**:
 - An additional \$609,577 would increase RTR grants to \$1.50 per child.
 - An additional \$129,000 dedicated to libraries currently receiving the minimum \$1,000 would double investment in communities like Vernonia, Yachats, Echo, and North Plains.

ISSUE #1: HB 5017 - STATE LIBRARY BUDGET/READY TO READ

- During public hearing, **several OLA members submitted both written and live testimony** in addition to our lobbyist.
- Current status: **Public hearing held.**
- Next steps: **Awaiting a work session** in full Joint Ways and Means Committee.



Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On General Government 02/10/2021 1:00 PM

[Download](#) [Audio](#)

ISSUE #2: HOUSE BILL 2919

ACADEMIC COURSE MATERIALS COST TRANSPARENCY



ISSUE #2: HB 2919 – ACADEMIC COURSE MATERIALS COST TRANSPARENCY

- Would require every public university/community college to **prominently display total costs of all required course materials and fees** for no less than 75 percent of their offered courses at time of registration; to be applied to 2022-2023 academic year.
- Bill arose out of work group that met between 2019-2021, in an attempt to **provide more cost transparency for students.**

ISSUE #2: HB 2919 – ACADEMIC COURSE MATERIALS COST TRANSPARENCY



- Big thank you to **Oregon librarian Amy Hofer** who worked with Legislators and stakeholders on this bill and testified in support!
- Current status: **Passed the House Floor unanimously** on April 15.
- Next steps: Assigned to the Senate Committee on Education. Once the bill is scheduled, OLA members will be **encouraged and guided on how to submit live and written testimony.**



ISSUE #3: SENATE BILL ~~552 225~~ 226

SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM STANDARDS STUDY

ISSUE #3: SB ~~552 225~~ 226 – SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM STANDARDS STUDY

- SB 226 has **undergone numerous revisions** since first introduced in January. Current language **represents collaboration** between OLA - notably our school library (OASL) members - and the Oregon Education Association (OEA)!
- Would direct Department of Education to **convene advisory group to evaluate “appropriateness of, and compliance with, the media program standards** developed by the State Board of Education.”

ISSUE #3: SB 552 225 226 – SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM STANDARDS STUDY

Oregon Secretary of State

Home Business Voting Elections State Archives Audits

Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

Chapter 584

Division 420

STATE STANDARDS FOR LICENSURE, ENDORSEMENT AND SPECIALIZATION PROGRAMS

584-420-0415

Library Media: Program Standards

(1) Candidates who are prepared for the Library Media endorsement will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, professional dispositions and cultural competencies necessary to promote the academic, career, personal and social development of students in Library Media learning environments.

(2) The Commission may provide approval to an educator preparation program that prepares candidates for a Library Media endorsement only if it includes:

(a) Content that will enable candidates to gain the knowledge, skills, abilities, professional dispositions, and cultural competencies to meet the standards set forth in this rule and the TSPC Program Review and Standards Handbook;

(b) A requirement for candidates to complete the Commission-approved test for Library Media;

(c) A requirement for candidates to complete a teacher performance assessment as provided in OAR 584-017-1100; and

(d) Field experiences that include supervised teaching or internships in Library Media classrooms; and

- Requires State Board of Education to **consult with State Library** for periodic review and revision of standards.
- Adds **“information literacy”** to directives regarding student learning opportunities.

ISSUE #3: SB ~~552 225~~ 226 – SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM STANDARDS STUDY

- Many **OLA** members testified in support of bill including its Chief Sponsor, Senator Gorsek, and **Kate Weber**, OASL President.
- Current status: **Passed Committee**; referred to Ways and Means.
- Next steps: **Awaiting referral** to a Ways and Means Subcommittee. Once referred, it will be scheduled for **public hearing** where OLA members will be **asked to testify in support**.



ISSUE #4: HOUSE BILL 5012

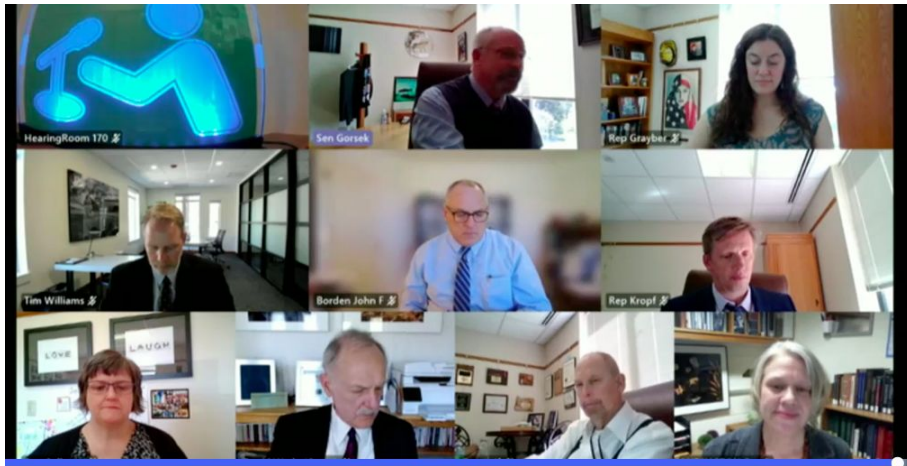
STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BUDGET/COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES



ISSUE #4: HB 5012 – STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BUDGET/COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES

- State Judicial Department (OJD) budget bill which includes **funding for county law libraries.**
- OLA **supported full funding** of OJD's proposed budget; **additionally advocated for restoring amount cut** specifically from law library program in July 2020.
- The reduction - **\$900,000** or about 25% of the total appropriation for 2020-2021 - was made when a statewide revenue deficit was predicted. With more optimistic forecasts, OLA **asked to restore that funding and make the law library program whole again.**

ISSUE #4: HB 5012 – STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT BUDGET/COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES



- LDLC's Chair **testified live** in support of the budget and **OLA submitted additional written testimony** into the record.
- Current status: **Public hearing** held.
- Next steps: **Awaiting a work session** in full Joint Ways and Means Committee.



ISSUE #5: HOUSE BILL (HB) 3256

TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL TO CREATE “CONNECTING OREGON LIBRARIES” FUND

ISSUE #5: HB 3256 – TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL TO CREATE “CONNECTING OREGON LIBRARIES” FUND

- Championed by Rep. Pam Marsh, who **approached OLA member for support**
- Would create the **Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund**, providing broadband access to eligible library facilities. The **State Library would administer the program and develop rules** to implement it.
- Would help our smallest and more remote schools and libraries **get more from the federal e-rate program** operated through the FCC by establishing a **dedicated fund** and providing 10% of the program costs.

ISSUE #5: HB 3256 – TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL TO CREATE “CONNECTING OREGON LIBRARIES” FUND

- Current status: **Passed committee unanimously**; referred to Ways and Means.
- Next steps: **Awaiting referral** to a Ways and Means Subcommittee. Once referred and scheduled, OLA members will be **asked to testify in support**.

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HB 3256
(LC 841)
4/1/21 (MAM/ps)

Requested by HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND PROSPERITY (at the request of Representative Pam Marsh)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE BILL 3256**

1 Delete lines 4 through 11 of the printed bill and insert:
2 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund is estab-**
3 **lished in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General**
4 **Fund. Interest earned by the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund shall**
5 **be credited to the fund.**
6 **“(2) The Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund consists of any moneys**
7 **deposited in the fund from whatever source and may include moneys**
8 **appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the fund by the**
9 **Legislative Assembly or otherwise and interest earned on moneys in**
10 **the fund.**
11 **“(3) The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the**

OLA ADVOCACY

GUIDANCE AND INSPIRATION FROM THE PROS



OLA ADVOCACY

ADVOCACY: WHAT DO WE MEAN?

“Advocacy encompasses a **wide range of activities that influence decision makers**. Advocacy includes traditional activities such as **litigation, lobbying, and public education**. It can also include **capacity building, relationship building, forming networks, and leadership development**. Lobbying refers to activities that are intended to **influence a specific piece of legislation**.” (from the [Nonprofit Association of Oregon](#))

OLA ADVOCACY

ADVOCACY: WHAT DO WE MEAN?

“The actions individuals or organizations undertake to influence decision-making at the local, regional, state, national, and international level that help create a desired funding or policy change in support of public libraries.” (from Public Library Association, [Public Library Advocacy](#))

OLA ADVOCACY

KEY TO OLA SUCCESS: **REPUTATION & RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

- **Reach out** to your legislator / “Meet the Candidates.”
- **Invite legislator or candidate to come to your library** for a children’s storytime or tween program.
 - Great opportunity for legislators to **learn about your program**, and for you to **thank them in person** for approving Ready to Read grant.
 - Arrange for **photo**, send a copy and **thank you** as follow-up.

OLA ADVOCACY

KEY TO OLA SUCCESS: REPUTATION & RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

■ Community outreach

- Write a **letter to the editor or opinion piece** and submit to area newspaper, supporting an area legislator or particular legislation applicable to libraries.
- **Educate parents of the crucial role that school and public libraries play** in the local community and around the state.
- Develop **library programs for adults** on civic engagement and navigating Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS), or invite your legislator to talk about **how constituents can effectively communicate with elected officials**.

OLA ADVOCACY

KEY TO OLA SUCCESS: **REPUTATION & RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

- **Ready to Read/School Libraries/Other Funding** (eg LSTA, ARPA)
 - Write a **note to your legislator** thanking them for **Ready to Read** grant.
 - Consider anecdotes that illustrate how **cuts to school library media programs** have negatively impacted your community and youth patrons.
 - Legislators - both state and federal - want to know that **funding is meaningful and hear the individual value** on your library and community.

OLA ADVOCACY

KEY TO OLA SUCCESS: **REPUTATION & RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

■ **OLA's Library Legislative Day**

- Single-day event held at **State Capitol, typically in February of odd-numbered years.**
- Chance to **meet with your Representative and/or Senator.**
- Help with distribution of **books chosen by legislators** for libraries in their districts.
- Throughout session, consider **testifying at legislative committee hearing** (with direction and support from OLA!)

For questions or to learn how you can get involved,
contact the LDLC Chair
ldlcchair@olaweb.org

YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED - JOIN US!

