

Pending Bills on Libraries

The following bills are pending in the New Jersey State Legislature and no action is scheduled at this time.

- A1981 Permits municipal board of library commissioners to reduce library tax rate when municipality acquires new ratables.
- S650/A2620 Increases the maximum amount of bonds issued by the New Jersey Educational Facilities Authority for the Public Library Project Fund from \$45 million to \$95 million to provide library construction and technology grants.
- S881/A1139 Removes appropriations for municipal library purposes from the four percent municipal property tax levy cap. 10/2/08 Reported from Senate Community and Urban Affairs committee with amendments.
- S1306/A1567/A2516 These bills would reduce the cap for the annual increase in the amount required to be raised by taxation for the municipal library from 15% to 4%. This change would bring the municipal library cap in line with the 4% tax levy cap for municipalities imposed pursuant to P.L.2007. The 4% cap could be exceeded only with the approval of the State Librarian.
- A2107 would provide \$ 1 million to continue the New Jersey Knowledge Initiative until June 2008.
- A3089/S2274 concerns the dissolution of free public libraries. It was introduced to address a recent judicial decision which held that there was no mechanism in statute to facilitate the dissolution of free public libraries as a result of decreased circulation or a desire to share library services with adjoining municipalities.
- A3753 proposes to reduce the tax levy for free public libraries to one-sixth of a mill per dollar of assessable property.
- AR177 memorializes the President the Congress to use a portion of the expected stimulus money to update and renovate deteriorating public libraries.
- S2728 introduced on March 16, 2009, this legislation encourages municipalities to enter into joint library agreements. Additionally, this bill will modify the membership on the newly created joint board of library trustees.