

Library programs funded for fy 1994— No rescissions

On October 22 it was learned that education and library programs would not be on the proposed rescission list for defunding as part of Vice President Gore's "reinventing government" initiative. All Higher Education Act library programs were on a list of some 40 education programs which the President was about to ask Congress to defund (even as Congress was completing action to fund them). However, a last-minute decision to take all Department of Education programs off the rescission request list was made at the White House.

Washington Hotline

Carol C. Henderson

Playing a key role in this decision was the Committee for Education Funding, a coalition in which ALA participates. CEF held a series of meetings with members of the administration and Congress in attempts to reverse the proposed rescissions. Constituent letters of protest were also helpful. The administration asked Congress to rescind programs from other agencies, and congressional amendments

designed to enlarge and deepen the budget cuts could still threaten library programs.

Funding action completed

Even though a potential rescission request was

threatening, Congress provided strong support for HEA and LSCA library programs. The two smallest programs (HEA and LSCA support for foreign-language materials) were not funded. But, thanks to Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-OR), funds for the LSCA public library construction program were increased. Both House and Senate have wrapped up final action on H.R. 2518, the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill for FY 1994, which was signed into law (PL 103-112) on October 21. Amounts for Department of Education library programs are shown in the sidebar, together with funding results for selected other programs. ■

Funding of library programs

Program (amounts in thousands)	FY93 Approp.	FY94 Admin. Request	FY94 Approp.
Higher Education Act	\$ 18,425	0	\$17,443
II-A, college library tech.	3,873	0	3,873
II-B, library education	4,960	0	4,960
II-B, research & demonstrations	2,802	0	2,802
II-C, research libraries	5,808	0	5,808
VI sec 607, foreign research materials	982	0	*
*This program may be funded at Dept. of Education discretion, as part of HEA VI, International Education, but is no longer specified for funding by Congress.			
Library Services & Construction Act	\$128,626	\$114,700	\$128,866
I, public library services	83,227	95,000	83,227
II, pub. lib. construction	16,584	0	17,792
III, interlibrary cooperation	19,749	19,749	19,749
IV, Indian library services	2% of LSCA I, II, and III		
V, foreign language materials	968	0	0
VI, library literacy programs	8,098	0	8,098
GPO Supert. of Documents	29,082	33,707	29,082
Natl. Center for Educ. Statistics	77,850	125,000	77,850
NCLIS	889	90	904
Library of Congress	334,316	364,352	331,864
National Agricultural Library	17,715	17,915	18,155
National Archives	160,045	189,182	190,232
Natl. Endowment for the Arts	174,460	174,593	170,228
Natl. Endowment for Humanities	177,413	177,491	177,491
Natl. Hist. Pubs. & Records Com.	5,000	4,000	5,250
National Library of Medicine (incl. Medical Lib. Asst. Act)	116,743	116,979	119,981

Carol C. Henderson is deputy executive director of ALA's Washington Office, bitnet: ccb@alawash.org