Message for Action Alert to House of Representatives
(Please support SB410, Libraries)

Why? The library bill ILF has worked on proactively with members since last session passed out of the Senate, and has been referred to the House Local Government Committee. Because of the pace of the short session, we need all 100 members of the House to be aware of our support for SB410.

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Basic Message of the ASK of your State Representative in the House

Please support SB410, the library bill, as it passed out of the Senate with a 49-0 vote. The Senate bill included seven co-authors and is sponsored by Reps. Pressel and Abbott.

SB410 allows public libraries to offer library cards to foster children, requires libraries to adopt criminal history check policies, and provides clarifications to HEA1343 from 2019. Please contact me with any questions or to learn more about how SB10 will help our library and community.

Thank you for your support of Indiana's public libraries.

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Bill Element Details, optional to add to customize your message
If you know that your legislator would be interested in one of the bill elements, you might include information about a specific aspect of the bill. Please reference the three issue briefs for more info.

SERVING FOSTER CHILDREN: Foster children often visit libraries where they do not have access, because libraries host supervised family reunification visits. SB410 adds a child receiving foster care services to the list of nonresident individuals for whom a library may provide a library card. [If your library does something special with supervised visits, you may add it here.]

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK POLICIES: Most libraries already have criminal history check practices. SB410 requires public libraries to adopt criminal history check policies for adult employees and volunteers by 12/31/2020, and adds libraries to the list of entities allowed to use the Indiana State Police to complete the checks. [If your library already runs checks, you might add it here. If your library uses a third-party vendor and will continue to use them, include that here.]

FISCAL MANAGEMENT: SB410 provides clarifications to make it easier for libraries and local fiscal bodies to implement HEA1343 from the 2019 session. We agree that libraries should have responsible reserves to protect taxpayer-funded assets, and libraries should communicate their plans for reserves. The intent of HEA1343 was to foster collaboration among units in budgeting and to increase transparency with reserves when yearend cash balances are in excess of 150% of budget. SB410 clarifies the threshold and process as coordinated with Dept. of Local Government Finance (DLGF). [Libraries might describe how they use reserves currently or are planning for the future.]

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Still Not Clear? ILF Advocacy Committee members and Lucinda are available to answer questions about how this bill, if passed, may impact your library, and specific strategies for you based on your legislators, finances, and/or local officials affiliated with your budget-adopting body. Contact us.