Indiana Library Federation
Advocacy/Legislative Update Call

Ground Rules for the Call/Online Meeting

Housekeeping - Start on time; no hold music; don’t introduce yourself if you join late; review bills and Advocacy Updates prior to call

Agenda for Call
• Legislative Co-Chair welcome
• Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs Kristi Howe and Kelly Ehinger and/or Lucinda review ILF priority, library-related bills most active
• As time allows,
  • Participant questions about these or other bills
  • Participant feedback on what you are hearing in your community

The Indiana Library Federation…
ACTIVELY ADVOCATES for...
• Funding for Internet connectivity for libraries and schools.
• Stable funding for INSPIRE, the state’s virtual library, in State budget.
• School libraries, certified librarians with library assistants and school library materials in K-12 education.
• Increased broadband coverage.

SUPPORTS...
• Lifelong learning initiatives
• Ensuring library service for all Indiana residents.
• Library funding and the tax structures that support libraries.

WILL MONITOR AND BE POSITIONED FOR ACTION related to the following:
• Efforts to re-organize local government.
• Updating the definition of library services in the Indiana Code.
• Changes to employment, compensation and retirement programs affecting library staff.

First three weeks of session
• Bill Lists
  • HB1001, the state budget – INSPIRE and Internet Connectivity are in House Version – Thank you for including; we want the amounts in through signing.
  • HB1343, Public Libraries – to discuss
  • Many other bills – See bill list – several about teacher pay, school safety, property and local income tax, TIF districts, etc.

What we are hearing
• Questions from legislators about INSPIRE, filters, curated pages in schools and libraries
• Digital trends in libraries, relevance of libraries in future
• Public Library Boards, PL reserves, PL salaries

What YOU can do:
• Read Advocacy Updates
• Review (and update) your Library Policies
• Attend a Third House/Meet Your Legislator session
• Register for Library Day at the Statehouse, March 12

Update on Challenges

Challenge to INSPIRE
Challenge in Evansville to Drag Queen Story Hour
Other issues

HB1343, Library Accountability

Why it is different this year
What we are hearing
• Why aren’t library board meetings publicized? How do taxpayers know or provide input?
• Why are salaries higher than teachers and other professionals? Why does the library director make more than the mayor?
• Why are reserves so high?

ILF Strategy
What YOU can do:
• Operate by best practices – over and above state requirements
• Develop or deepen the relationship with your legislators, decision-makers and influencers – get to know them BEFORE the ask
• Attend (or host) Third House sessions
• When needed, contact legislator with ask
• Attend Library Day at the Statehouse on March 12
Feedback?

What are you hearing?

How can we help?
What do you need from ILF to support your efforts?