

SB 5 Talking Points

WHAT IS SB 5?

SB 5 seeks to update SD statutes to include digital publications in an effective state publications library distribution program, and to give the State Library Board the authority to design the best framework for accomplishing the goals of the program.

- It revises the definition of “publication” to include materials in digital format intended for public distribution.
- It will allow the State Library Board to replace the current static paper-based depository system with a new model emphasizing access to and use of state agency publications.

WHY SB 5?

We need a state documents law that is **CURRENT, SIMPLE, and EFFECTIVE.**

CURRENT

We need a law that reflects **the needs and conditions of the 21st century, not the 1970s.** The current law was enacted in 1974, and reflects the information/publishing environment of the 1970s. It spells out requirements for formats that are no longer relevant, and misses the whole realm of **digital publishing.**

SIMPLE

We need a law that is **straightforward and responsive.** The current law goes into detail that is better left to administrative rule so the system can be more responsive to the needs of its users and changes in the environment. The proposed law also represents a **reduced burden** for many state agencies, and that should translate into **lower costs.**

EFFECTIVE

We need a law that encourages **access, not just storage.** State agencies publish a wealth of information each year for public consumption, and we need the statutory authority to collect, preserve, and disseminate that public wealth. By enabling appropriate storage and indexing of digital resources, encouraging participation by a wide range of SD libraries, and emphasizing public education regarding what’s available, SB 5 will **give SD taxpayers a much more effective bang for their bucks.**

BACKGROUND / NEXT STEPS

If the legislature passes SB 5, then the State Library Board will undertake a rule-making process to develop and adopt Administrative Rules with the details of the new state publications library distribution program. This process will involve opportunity for public discussion & debate about those details.

PROPOSED NEW SYSTEM

Under the current system, the State Publications program is almost exclusively paper-based, with seven “depositories” around the state getting copies of paper publications from various state agencies. Digital publications (increasingly prevalent these days) are not specifically covered by the existing statute, and so are captured for the program only sporadically. Libraries that are not one of the seven “depositories” don’t have much of a role in the present system.

We would like to replace this system with a new model that gives every library in the state a role, if they wish it, in disseminating state-agency-produced information. The seven current depositories would be replaced by a smaller number of “full depositories” which would receive copies of anything produced in paper-only format. These full depositories would be chosen by the State Library Board from libraries voluntarily applying for the position.

In addition to full depositories, every library in the state would be encouraged to participate as an “affiliate depository” to help spread the word about the wealth of useful information available in state publications, and to help increase the ROI from those publications by increasing the public’s use of them. Libraries choosing to voluntarily participate as affiliate depositories would have access to special training and public awareness activities from the State Library, and would be recognized for their participation.

Publications which are available **only** in paper format will be distributed to full depositories, with the State Library (if possible, in cooperation with other SD libraries) converting them to digital format and making them available to all libraries through our eLibrary collection. Publications that are produced in digital format (by the issuing agency) will be added to our eLibrary collection (with value-added enhancements, such as indexing, when feasible) and made available to all libraries online.

We believe such a plan, by emphasizing **access** and **use** of state publications, rather than just the storage of them, is very much in the spirit of good public stewardship. By enabling us to capture digital publications, it brings us into the 21st century. By reducing the required number of paper copies (of often expensive publications), we’re reducing the burden on state agencies and meeting a goal of the Governor’s regulatory reform initiative. And, by making publications available in a central, online, accessible resource, we’re reducing the need for (increasingly precious) physical library space devoted to state publications.