

RESOLUTION 2020-5

CONCERNING STATE GRANTS FOR LIBRARIES

Whereas, New Mexico public libraries provide books and other materials and services to meet the informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs of all New Mexicans; and

Whereas, the effectiveness of a library is determined by its ability to deliver current, accurate information in a timely manner through books and materials answering community needs; and

Whereas, advances in technology have made information resources increasingly accessible electronically; and

Whereas, the demand for library resources continues to rise while the cost of providing the resources is beyond local funding capacity; and

Whereas, publicly funded libraries have increased their effectiveness by sharing their resources electronically, enabling public, school and college libraries to coordinate the use of scarce library funds within the community and statewide; and

Whereas, public libraries have experienced a substantial growth in usage, yet many municipalities lack resources to support adequate funding for library collections and operating expenditures; and

Whereas, the current state grants-in-aid distribution is ~~[\$0.57]~~ \$0.47 per capita; and

Whereas, the national average for public library state grants in aid is ~~[\$3.55]~~ \$3.47 per capita.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That the New Mexico Municipal League endorses the passage of legislation to increase the appropriation to the library division of the Cultural Affairs Department to provide grants-in-aid for local library services and operations.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 3rd day of September at the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2020 CEDGO Committee Priority: **HIGH**