

SUBCHAPTER II—LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY

§ 9121. Purpose

It is the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) to enhance coordination among Federal programs that relate to library and information services;

(2) to promote continuous improvement in library services in all types of libraries in order to better serve the people of the United States;

(3) to facilitate access to resources in all types of libraries for the purpose of cultivating an educated and informed citizenry;

(4) to encourage resource sharing among all types of libraries for the purpose of achieving economical and efficient delivery of library services to the public;

(5) to promote literacy, education, and life-long learning and to enhance and expand the services and resources provided by libraries, including those services and resources relating to workforce development, 21st century skills, and digital literacy skills;

(6) to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and to recruit future professionals to the field of library and information services;

(7) to ensure the preservation of knowledge and library collections in all formats and to enable libraries to serve their communities during disasters;

(8) to enhance the role of libraries within the information infrastructure of the United States in order to support research, education, and innovation; and

(9) to promote library services that provide users with access to information through national, State, local, regional, and international collaborations and networks.

(Pub. L. 94-462, title II, §212, as added Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(e) [title VII, §702], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-233, 3009-295; amended Pub. L. 108-81, title II, §201, Sept. 25, 2003, 117 Stat. 997; Pub. L. 111-340, title II, §201, Dec. 22, 2010, 124 Stat. 3599.)

AMENDMENTS

2010—Par. (1). Pub. L. 111-340, §201(1), added par. (1) and struck out former par. (1) which read as follows: “to consolidate Federal library service programs;”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 111-340, §201(2), inserted “continuous” after “promote”.

Pars. (5) to (9). Pub. L. 111-340, §201(3)–(5), added pars. (5) to (9).

2003—Pars. (2) to (5). Pub. L. 108-81 added pars. (2) to (4) and struck out former pars. (2) to (5) which read as follows:

“(2) to stimulate excellence and promote access to learning and information resources in all types of libraries for individuals of all ages;

“(3) to promote library services that provide all users access to information through State, regional, national and international electronic networks;

“(4) to provide linkages among and between libraries; and

“(5) to promote targeted library services to people of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, to individuals with disabilities, and to people with limited functional literacy or information skills.”

§ 9122. Definitions

As used in this subchapter:

(1) Library

The term “library” includes—

(A) a public library;

(B) a public elementary school or secondary school library;

(C) an academic library;

(D) a research library, which for the purposes of this subchapter means a library that—

(i) makes publicly available library services and materials suitable for scholarly research and not otherwise available to the public; and

(ii) is not an integral part of an institution of higher education; and

(E) a private library or other special library, but only if the State in which such private or special library is located determines that the library should be considered a library for purposes of this subchapter.

(2) Library consortium

The term “library consortium” means any local, statewide, regional, interstate, or international cooperative association of library entities which provides for the systematic and effective coordination of the resources of school, public, academic, and special libraries and information centers, for improved services for the clientele of such library entities.

(3) State

The term “State”, unless otherwise specified, includes each of the 50 States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

(4) State library administrative agency

The term “State library administrative agency” means the official agency of a State charged by the law of the State with the extension and development of public library services throughout the State.

(5) State plan

The term “State plan” means the document which gives assurances that the officially designated State library administrative agency has the fiscal and legal authority and capability to administer all aspects of this subchapter, provides assurances for establishing the State’s policies, priorities, criteria, and procedures necessary to the implementation of all programs under this subchapter, submits copies for approval as required by regulations promulgated by the Director, identifies a State’s library needs, and sets forth the activities to be taken toward meeting the identified needs supported with the assistance of Federal funds made available under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 94-462, title II, §213, as added Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(e) [title VII, §702], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-233, 3009-296; amended Pub. L. 105-128, §3, Dec. 1, 1997, 111 Stat. 2548; Pub. L. 108-81, title II, §202, Sept. 25, 2003, 117 Stat. 997.)