**Key Library Programs**

**Shared Digital Content** - $6.4M for online resources for Texans

**Workforce & Economic Development** - $550,000 to support job seekers and the future Texas workforce

**Restoring Funds**

Due to the large state cuts to library programs in 2011 (which totaled over $25 million in state funds), Texas almost lost federal funds for subsequent years.

While a federal waiver was granted, Texas must continue to restore funds to libraries to keep its share of federal funding.

The $7.25M in funding restored in 2013 is an important step, but the state must continue to rebuild funding in order to allow libraries to support our state’s knowledge-based economy.

**Who is served by Texas libraries?**

Almost 24 million Texans served by 560 library systems with almost 880 public outlets

Almost 6 million Texas students and teachers

Over 1.5 million college students and faculty served by 146 colleges & universities

Any person, researcher, entrepreneur, student, or parent statewide can use the resources at Texas libraries

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**Texas Library Association**

**Budget Priorities for the 84th Legislature**

**Supporting the Texas Knowledge-Based Economy**

Texas State Library & Archives Commission (TSLAC) (Article I, General Government, HB 1/SB 2)

**Shared Digital Content** – $6.4 million in state funds to build digital educational collections. Through TexShare (for public and college library users) & TexQuest (for K-12 public schools), libraries support homework completion, college preparation, research, job searching, test preparation & instruction.

- Digital content through our state’s libraries form an efficient and effective infrastructure that supports education and economic development throughout Texas.
- With millions of Texans making hundreds of millions of searches and uses of these resources, we know that TexShare and TexQuest support learning and business activity at all levels.
- This program leverages the purchasing power of the state and reaps enormous savings. A conservative Return on Investment (ROI) for this service shows that, for every $1 spent, taxpayers gain $8 of valuable resources.

**Libraries in Support of Workforce and Economic Development** – $550,000 in state funds for training. Libraries of all types equip the Texas workforce (from our youngest learners to those seeking higher-skilled jobs) to develop skills, access technology, find jobs, and research areas for innovation.

- Libraries provide a central path for meeting the state’s priorities of establishing educational opportunities, creating a favorable environment for business, and increasing literacy.
- Libraries across the state are partnering with local Workforce Solutions offices. A key for maximizing services is training to meet the increased demands for worker training programs.
- A UT Bureau of Business Research Study (2012) found that public libraries (conservatively) return $4.42 in value for every dollar invested.
Texas Digital Archive ($900,000 to begin the creation of a centralized collection of state government archives)
  • TSLAC is mandated to collect archives in digital format but has not been given the resources to accomplish this mission
  • Currently, these high value digital records are scattered across agencies and may be a liability to the state
  • Management of these resources improves transparent government

Shared Digital Content ($6.4 million in GR funding, supplemented with $1.1 in federal funds and Fees)
  • Includes $4.2M for TexShare and $2.9 M for TexQuest content
  • TexShare and TexQuest allow millions of users to make hundreds of millions of log-ins and uses
  • Conservative ROI of $8-to-$1 (Efficient use of state resources!)
  • Resources include content in dozens of areas: science, engineering, health, business, workforce skills, history, literature, and more!
  • Access is 24/7 and is available to patrons of member libraries regardless of type, size, or location
  • Higher education faculty and students have a high demand for online research information; statewide contracts ensure access for all and eliminate duplication of effort

Targeted Salary Adjustment ($900,000 to address salary deficiencies & allow for effective recruitment of key staff)
  • The 65% loss of GR in 2011 created systemic problems from which the agency has not yet recovered.
  • 85% of staff are below the mid-point of the state salary range
  • Would 60 positions to midpoint of state salary range

Records Management ($400,000 for 2 analysts)
  • Access to state and local records ensures transparent government
  • The agency has only 7 analysts to provide assistance to 157 state agencies and 10,000 units of local government.
  • One analyst saves state & local agencies about $120,000 in training.

Libraries Supporting Workforce Development ($550,000 in GR funds with $300,000 in federal funds to assist libraries in supporting workforce and economic development)
  • Texans turn to libraries for resources to help them find jobs and improve their workplace skills
  • Public, school, and academic libraries are positioned to expand workforce and economic development by:
    • becoming partners to workforce groups
    • supporting job seekers (computer access, job searches, resume building, testing & certification)
    • teaching literacy, ESL, digital and financial literacy
    • improving the local economy by supporting local businesses
    • supporting the school curriculum
    • preparing teens to be employable

The Texas Library Associations supports all of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission’s funding requests.
www.txla.org/take-action