

March 25, 2010

This afternoon in the Senate Policy and Steering Committee on Ways and Means Senator Fasano successfully added \$15 million to the Senate budget for State Aid to Public Libraries. Many thanks to Judi Ring and the folks at the State Library for doing their magic and preparing the attached projections showing how much each library would receive. The reduction amounts to just under 30% from the current \$21.2 million.

Chris Lyon spoke with House TED Chair Rich Glorioso this afternoon and Rep. Glorioso reports that he has gone to the Speaker seeking additional dollars so that they can fund State Aid at \$21.2 million.

I believe we should thank Senator Fasano and the Committee but point out how State Aid has already be cut by a third, from \$33.4 million to \$21.2 and that libraries will be badly harmed by this further reduction.

I plan to get out a status report to the library community tomorrow.

Last time I looked the CapWiz contacts were well over 25,000 and I expect that we've had an equal number of direct phone calls and e-mail messages. And we keep seeing positive newspaper stories every day.

Thanks!

Charlie -