



Leadership. Advocacy. Communication.

# Issues: Florida Library Legislative Day

2010

## ***Public Libraries - Please – No More State Funding Cuts!***

- Floridians are turning to their public libraries more than ever due to the troubled economy and libraries are coming through in Floridians' time of need! Libraries are helping Floridians find jobs and apply for essential E-Government services. Library funding has already been significantly cut at the local level with more cuts coming and state funding is down from \$33.4 million in 2001 to \$21.2 million today.

If state funding is much further or eliminated, libraries will close in communities all over the state – in large counties, rural counties, and cities and if funding is reduced, Florida will lose critically needed federal funds.

## ***Regional Multi-Type Library Cooperatives (MLCs)***

Increase MLC funding from the current \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million. This is much less than the \$2.4 million appropriated in 2006-'07 to provide training and support resource sharing among libraries.

## ***University & College Libraries***

We support the State University System of Florida's funding request for the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) and the Division of Florida Colleges funding request for the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) and requests from both for electronic resources. We support the Joint Library Planning Committee's proposal for a study to develop a vision and strategic plan for on-line library services and systems for all types of Florida libraries.

## ***State Library of Florida***

We support the funding proposed by the Governor for the State Library and Archives of Florida. We also support the continuation of the Department of State, in particular the State Library and Archives of Florida, and its programs in their current form as the agency goes through the Sunset Review process.

## ***School Libraries***

We support continued support for SunLink, the shared statewide catalog for public schools.

## ***Substantive Legislation***

***Early Voting*** - We support legislation that provides Supervisors of Elections with greater discretion in selecting early voting sites than is currently provided by law.

***Thanks!***