
HOUSE BILL 1436

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Van Luven, Voloria, Keiser, Morris, Wolfe, Scott, Cole, Mason, Dunn, Quall, Lantz, Cooper, Gombosky, Murray, Costa and Anderson; by request of Washington State Library

Read first time 01/27/97. Referred to Committee on Energy & Utilities.

1 AN ACT Relating to electronic information access for public
2 libraries; adding new sections to chapter 27.04 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds public access to a
6 wide variety of information is vital to the effective functioning of
7 society; public libraries are a primary source for information and
8 educational opportunities; and public libraries serve as centers for
9 community activity. The legislature further finds much vital
10 information, including government information, is rapidly becoming
11 available in electronic forms, and in many cases electronic form only.
12 Also, Washingtonians must continue to have access to this information
13 through their local public libraries. Further, the Washington state
14 library has a responsibility to encourage and facilitate access to
15 electronic information and to help develop local library service.

16 To achieve and maintain equity of information access state-wide,
17 the legislature intends the users of each public library outlet to have
18 walk-in access to electronic information provided by an affordable,
19 reliable electronic graphical connection, making use of the economies

1 of scale afforded by a centralized, coordinated project. Further, the
2 legislature intends collaboration among Washington libraries of all
3 types, the sharing of their various resources, and the wholesale
4 acquisition of access to electronic information products be managed and
5 promoted through the establishment of a resource-sharing consortium
6 project.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The state library, in close cooperation with
8 Washington public libraries, will design and implement individualized
9 local electronic connections on a population ratio basis in all
10 Washington public library outlets, including, but not necessarily
11 limited to, such expenditures as workstations, telecommunications
12 connections, technical support, consulting, and training. The design
13 and implementation of the connectivity pilot project includes the
14 following considerations:

- 15 (1) Close cooperation among all project stakeholders;
- 16 (2) Use of related federal, state, local, and private sector
17 expertise;
- 18 (3) A focus on local circumstances, opportunities, and solutions;
- 19 (4) Minimizing duplication of effort through centralized and
20 coordinated support;
- 21 (5) Emphasis on state-wide benefit as well as local benefit; and
- 22 (6) To the extent possible, application of technical standards
23 developed by the K-20 telecommunications oversight and policy
24 committee. The state library shall submit a report to the legislature
25 on the project no later than December 1, 1999.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The state library, in close cooperation with
27 Washington libraries of all types, shall design and implement a pilot
28 for a resource-sharing consortium, including, but not necessarily
29 limited to, such activities as an information clearinghouse, wholesale
30 acquisition of access to electronic information products, home page,
31 subject specialty reference, last copy center, materials delivery,
32 training, and information consulting. Planning for the resource-
33 sharing project includes a method to achieve self-sufficiency before
34 July 1, 1999. The state library shall submit a report to the
35 legislature on the project no later than December 1, 1999.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding and staff for the
2 purposes of section 2 of this act is not provided by June 30, 1997, in
3 the biennial appropriations act, section 2 of this act is null and
4 void.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If specific funding and staff for the
6 purposes of section 3 of this act is not provided by June 30, 1997, in
7 the biennial appropriations act, section 3 of this act is null and
8 void.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act are each added
10 to chapter 27.04 RCW.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Section 3 of this act expires June 30, 1999.

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