

The [Oregon Library Association](#) joins [American Library Association](#) President Courtney Young in rebuking the budget plan by House Budget Committee). This budget plan seeks to eliminate federal funding for multiple programs dedicated to the public good that directly benefit Oregon libraries and their patrons.

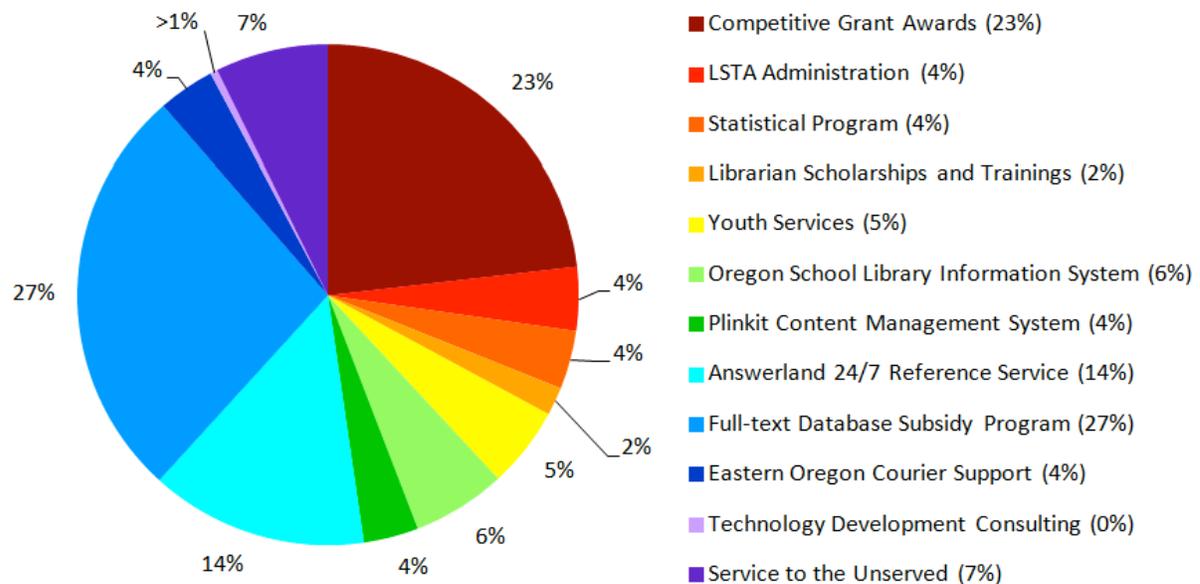
The proposed budget resolution effectively calls for the dissolution of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federal agency that administers grants to libraries and museums, including the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grants to States Program. In 2012, the Oregon State Library received \$2,164,574 as its LSTA grant funds representing 35% of the state’s \$7 million Oregon State Library budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

ALA President Young writes, “Libraries depend on the support they receive from IMLS to help patrons learn new skills, find job opportunities and access reading materials that they otherwise could not afford. More than \$180 million has been appropriated to the Institute for Museum and Library Services through September 2014 to help libraries make information and services available to the citizens they serve.”

Oregon libraries serve the same critical role in ensuring equitable access to the Internet, books, and other educational materials. In Oregon, LSTA funding has allowed libraries to create summer reading programs, support early literacy programs, provide Oregonians with reliable access to online databases, and enhance public programs at the local level.

Oregon Library Association President Candice Watkins says, “Oregon’s most recent libraries statistics indicate widespread use of services – nearly 21 million visits to our facilities, over 73,000 public programs offered, and over 60 million items such as books circulated. The proposed budget would seriously impact our ability to provide these critical and well-used services to Oregonians.”

Use of Oregon's 2014 LSTA Allotment (\$2 million)



Library Services and Technology Act At Work For Oregonians

Local libraries throughout Oregon use the competitive grant program administered through the Oregon State Library. In 2014, the eight LSTA Competitive Grant Projects spent **\$484,957** to address community needs, statewide challenges and creative ideas.

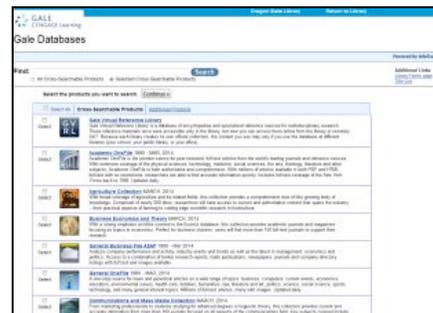
- **Coos Bay Public Library (\$5,400)**
Gadget Gallery – Downloadable material and device instruction
- **Oregon State University Libraries (\$68,635)**
Development and Management of Building Oregon: Architecture of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest
- **Pacific University Library (\$36,809)**
Washington County Oral Histories: A Planning Grant
- **Albany Public Library et al. (\$67,558)**
Linn County Cooperative Library System – Expansion of a shared online catalog
- **Hood River County Library District (\$24,072)**
Odell Outreach: Reaching Out to Hood River County’s Adult Spanish Speakers
- **Josephine Community Libraries, Inc. (\$68,343)**
Expanding Opportunities Program, Year 2 – Literacy training and employment resources
- **Ready to Learn Coalition (\$168,669)**
Project Ready to Learn, Year 2 – Incentivizing library use to improve early learning
- **Sage Library System (\$45,471)**
A Clean Slate: Increasing Cataloging Capacity in the Sage Library System

LSTA funds support statewide information services to all Oregonians. These two services illustrate how the library community works together with the Oregon State Library to use LSTA funds to provide timely, quality information and expertise.

Answerland (E-Reference Service): Provides help in finding information from a real librarian 24/7 using the latest web-based technology. The project is led by the Multnomah County Library in partnership with 37 public, academic, and school libraries in the state (\$294,500). **Check out Answerland at www.answerland.org.**



Statewide Database Licensing Project: This project provides all public, school, and academic libraries with affordable access to high quality information databases that can be used in the library, at home, or at the office. The databases give online access to magazines, scholarly journals, reference books, and more. In addition, the project provides statewide access to a database to help job seekers and students with practice tests and skill building (\$561,094).



Contact Candice Watkins, OLA President, for more information. cwatkins@clatsopcc.edu