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Subject: [NYLINE] National Library Week Press Release/Budget Update

To: [NYLINE@listserv.nysed.gov](mailto:NYLINE@listserv.nysed.gov)

NYLA has issued press release on National Library Week (visit [www.nyla.org](http://www.nyla.org) under Headlines). I encourage you to add your local events to the press release and resend out to local media in your area.

#### Budget Update

The \$5 million cut in Library Aid proposed by former Governor Spitzer was restored. However, many, but not all programs, incurred a 2% across the board cut to fund a very generous \$1.8 billion school aid increase. This across the board 2% cut amounts to approximately \$1.9 million less for libraries than last year. DLD is working on adjusting the formulas and will let you know how this impacts your library or system as soon as they are done with their calculations.

The \$14 million in public library construction remains the same as last year and funding for school library materials aid also remains at \$6.25 per pupil.

Another development in the budget of interest specifically for public libraries was changes to the Wicks Law. The threshold for triggering Wicks was increased to \$3 million in NYC, \$1.5 million in suburbs of NYC and \$500,000 upstate. Also public library districts are now eligible for Local Government Efficiency Grants (\$29.4 million available), these grants can be used to plan and implement shared service arrangements. More info can be found here [http://www.nyslocalgov.org/pdf/Local\\_Government\\_Efficiency\\_Grants.pdf](http://www.nyslocalgov.org/pdf/Local_Government_Efficiency_Grants.pdf)

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