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Item 6120-011-0001—Funding to Connect Libraries to Statewide High Speed Internet Network

June 5, 2013

Conference Compromise Budget Bill Language on Connecting Local Libraries to High-Speed Internet

Add Provision:

X. Of the funds appropriated in Schedule (2), up to \$2,250,000 is available on a one-time basis to connect local libraries to a statewide high-speed internet network. The funding is contingent upon approval of a needs assessment and spending plan to be prepared by the State Library. The needs assessment, at a minimum, shall (1) evaluate local libraries' current internet connectivity and expenditures; (2) identify the requirements of connecting all libraries to the internet using available options, including Corporation for Education Network Initiative in California (CENIC); and (3) estimate the costs of the identified connectivity options. The spending plan, at a minimum, shall (1) identify total project costs, broken down by one-time and ongoing costs; (2) identify available funding sources, including non-General Fund sources that are equal to or greater than the General Fund appropriation; and (3) detail the use of General Fund in the 2013-14 fiscal year. The needs assessment and spending plan shall be submitted to the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst's Office, and the chairs and vice chairs of the budget subcommittees on education. The State Library may access the funds appropriated in Schedule (2) only upon approval of the spending plan by the Department of Finance and notification to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.