AN ACT concerning local government.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Library System Act is amended by changing Sections 1 and 3 and by adding Section 8.7 as follows:

(75 ILCS 10/1) (from Ch. 81, par. 111)

Sec. 1. Because the state has a financial responsibility in promoting public education, and because the public library is a vital agency serving all levels of the educational process, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the state to encourage the improvement of free public libraries and to encourage cooperation among all types of libraries in promoting the sharing of library resources, including digital resources. In keeping with this policy, provision is hereby made for a program of state grants designed to establish, develop and operate a network of library systems covering the entire state.

It is further declared to be the policy of the State to encourage and protect the freedom of libraries and library systems to acquire materials without external limitation and to be protected against attempts to ban, remove, or otherwise restrict access to books or other materials.

(Source: P.A. 83-411.)

(75 ILCS 10/3) (from Ch. 81, par. 113)

Sec. 3. The State Librarian and the Illinois State Library his staff shall administer the provisions of this Act and shall prescribe such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry the provisions of this Act into effect.

The rules and regulations established by the State Librarian for the administration of this Act shall be designed to achieve the following standards and objectives:

A provide library service for every citizen in the state by extending library facilities to areas not now served.

B provide library materials for student needs at every educational level.

C provide adequate library materials to satisfy the reference and research needs of the people of this state.

D provide an adequate staff of professionally trained librarians for the state.

E adopt the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval or, in the alternative, develop a written statement declaring the inherent authority of the library or library system to provide an adequate collection stock of books and other materials sufficient in size and varied in kind and subject matter to satisfy the library needs of the people of this state and prohibit the practice of banning specific books or resources.

F provide adequate library outlets and facilities convenient in time and place to serve the people of this state.

G encourage existing and new libraries to develop library systems serving a sufficiently large population to support adequate library service at reasonable cost.

H foster the economic and efficient utilization of public funds.

I promote the full utilization of local pride, responsibility, initiative and support of library service and at the same time employ state aid as a supplement to local support.

The Advisory Committee of the Illinois State Library shall confer with, advise and make recommendations to the State Librarian regarding any matter under this Act and particularly with reference to the formation of library systems.

(Source: Laws 1965, p. 3077.)

(75 ILCS 10/8.7 new)

Sec. 8.7. State grants; book banning. In order to be eligible for State grants, a library or library system shall adopt the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval or, in the alternative, develop a written statement prohibiting the practice of banning books or other materials within the library or library system.