

# ≡ Save Illinois Libraries! ≡

In the latest Illinois state budget, the General Assembly cut general revenue funding for all state library and literacy grants by 50%!



THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY THANKS SECRETARY OF STATE JESSE WHITE, who was able to restore much of the cut funding by re-deploying the competitive grant portion of the federal Library Services and Technology (LSTA) grant money. But the fight is far from over.

At a time when library usage is at its highest ever, ILLINOIS LIBRARIES ARE BEING ASKED TO FACE TOMORROW'S NEEDS WITH YESTERDAY'S RESOURCES! Grant funding is vital to help libraries throughout the state keep up with the public's information needs and provide 21st century service to the community. Grant cuts ultimately mean fewer new programs and initiatives and a decrease in technological advancement.

LIBRARY SYSTEM FUNDING IS AT ITS LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 1993. Systems provide invaluable service to libraries across the state, returning \$10 in service for every dollar they receive in state funding. System budget cuts mean higher costs for services, fewer professional training opportunities, and less support for your library.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PER CAPITA GRANTS ARE AT THEIR LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 1993 and PUBLIC SCHOOL PER CAPITA GRANTS ARE AT THEIR LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 1997. Public institutions use per capita grants to support a range of programs, from day-to-day operations at their library to special projects. Per capita grant cuts mean fewer materials available to library users, less assistance to patrons even as usage increases, reduction in staff and hours, and fewer learning opportunities for students.

Libraries are instrumental in teaching Illinois' children and preparing Illinois' citizens for the jobs of tomorrow. Let members of the Illinois General Assembly know that without their assistance, libraries in Illinois can't survive.

The state's future is at stake!

## Take Action!

Go to [SavellinoisLibraries.com](http://SavellinoisLibraries.com) and write your legislators - tell them you want them to support libraries now and in the future!