



LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE

66th Montana Legislature

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August 26, 2020

Budget Director Tom Livers,

The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) has finalized its recommendations for a methodology to assess state agencies for services provided to them by the Montana State Library (MSL). Implementation of a fixed cost for MSL services included in state agency budgets provides the agencies an enhanced understanding of the benefits of the services that MSL provides. An enhanced understanding may lead to state agency promotion of MSL services and related budget requests.

The LFC recommends that the Office of Budget and Program Planning include two fixed cost components for digital library services in the 2023 biennium budget:

- An assessment to state agencies using the Natural Resource Information System based on the percent of ESRI enterprise license agreements for each state agency as shown on page 2 of the [Fixed Costs for Montana State Library](#)
- An assessment to all state agencies based on active directory. This component would pay for web site archival and general usage of digital library services

As you are aware, the recommendation to include a fixed cost in HB 2 for the 2023 biennium is one of several recommendations generated from the LFC study of digital library services under HB 633. LFC Education Subcommittee reports that are relevant to this discussion include:

- [Fixed Costs for Montana State Library](#)
- [Montana State Library Options for Funding](#)
- [HB 633 Funding Options](#)
- [HB 633 Budget](#)
- [Montana State Library Expenditures](#)

Thank you for your consideration of this request as you move forward with the 2023 biennium budget.

Sincerely,