

ILF's mission is to lead, educate, and advocate to advance library services for the benefit of Indiana residents.

2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

LITERACY

- Include certified school librarians as critical partners as the State continues significant investments in education and literacy to collaboratively work toward long-term solutions for all Hoosiers.
- Champion public libraries' role in providing life-long learning for all ages and barrier-free access to quality early literacy activities and programming, like storytime, for all community members.

PROTECTION OF THE FREEDOM TO READ

- Oppose legislative proposals for censorship and the infringement on the freedom to read or that criminalizes librarians while performing duties in alignment with the core tenets of professional librarianship.

FUNDING & SUPPORT

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY (ISL) BUDGET

- Maintain the current ISL budget requests as it leads to the enhancement and improvement of library services throughout the state.
- Retain full funding for INSPIRE, the online trusted resource provided by the ISL, that provides free access to academic resources and workforce development/college readiness tools.
- Continue state funding for 50% of the cost of the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library providing access to a monthly free book for all Indiana children from birth-5th birthday. As of December 1, 2024, a total of 119,925 children are enrolled.

STABLE TAX STRUCTURE

- Maintain autonomous local control and governance of public libraries as independent taxing entities. Indiana libraries have continually shown good stewardship with taxpayer dollars.
- Recognize Hoosiers' desire for tax reform, and advocate for a sustainable and stable tax structure that continues to fund the vital services that public libraries provide: literacy, workforce and economic development, life-long learning and digital equity.

ACCESS

- Advocate universal broadband access for Hoosiers at home as libraries continue to provide public access to high-speed internet and combat the digital divide.
- Value the role Indiana libraries provide as a reliable resource for vital public services and information to improve Hoosiers' quality of life.