

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

The 1994 Legislature created a grant program for public library accessibility projects. The grants are funded through state bond proceeds. The 1994 Legislature initially approved \$1 million for the program. Subsequent bonding bills have included \$1 million in 1996, \$1.5 million in 1998, \$1 million in 2000 and \$1 million in 2002 which was initially vetoed by the governor but then subsequently approved by the 2003 Legislature.

Section

- 1 Application; definitions.** Broadens the purpose of the public library grant program to include grants for new construction as well as grants for library accessibility projects.
- 2 Approval by commissioner.** Expands the current public library accessibility program to also include remodeling projects and new library construction.
- 3 Qualification.** Broadens the authority of the public library grant program to cover new construction as well as remodeling accessibility improvement costs. Raises the maximum grant amount from \$150,000 per site to \$1 million per site, but continues to limit the maximum grant to not more than 50 percent of the total approved costs.
- 4 Appropriation.** Appropriates \$10 million from the state bond proceeds fund to the commissioner of education for library capital improvement grants.
- 5 Bond sale.** Authorizes the commissioner of finance to sell and issue up to \$10 million in state general obligation bonds in order to make the appropriations authorized in section 4.
- 6 Effective date.** Makes sections 1 to 5 effective the day following final enactment.