

**LIBRARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS WE NEED YOUR HELP**

**PLEASE CONTACT HARRISBURG LEGISLATORS NOW!**

**Gov. Rendell's Proposed 2009-10 State Budget Cuts Libraries, Again!**

**The Time to Act is Now !**

The Governor's 2009-2010 Budget Proposal (H.B. 1416) calls for a 5% reduction in funding for Pennsylvania's libraries. And just when we thought it couldn't get worse, the State Senate passed S.B. 850 – a proposal that slashes library services by cutting more than 50% of funding! A comparison chart of these two proposals can be found at this link:

<http://www.palibraries.org/associations/9291/files/State%20budget%20proposals%20compared.pdf>

1. Demand for library services is up dramatically during this recession. **Libraries all across Pennsylvania are busier** than ever before serving people looking for work, families on tight budgets, and retirees grappling with shrinking savings. Budget cuts will reduce library services for the very people who need libraries the most.
2. Reduced library funding **will cost Pennsylvania nearly a million dollars in lost federal library funding under H.B. 1416.** Even worse, Pennsylvania's library users **will lose \$3.8 million in federal funds if S.B. 850 became law.**

The Governor's budget proposes to **cut 5.1%** from state support for library services, or \$4,790,000, even as the \$14 billion Department of Education budget grows overall. Libraries which are part of the Department of Education will receive no increases just more cuts.

**In order to maintain vitally needed library services for constituents in FY 2009-10 contact your Harrisburg legislators and ask for state funding equal to the current year (FY 2008-09)**

**CALL TODAY AND ASK FOR LEVEL FUNDING; SAY NO TO SENATE BILL 850!**

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