



LIBRARY LAW E-NOTE

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KTJ

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RECENT LEGISLATION AFFECTING LIBRARIES

The Illinois legislature passed numerous bills during the last session and the Governor has acted on all of those bills. This e-note highlights three of the new public acts that impact Illinois libraries.

Illinois Local Library Act: Financial Reports

On August 22, 2017, House Bill 0373 was signed into law as Public Act 100-0245. The bill amends the Illinois Local Library Act to provide that a library board of trustees' statement of financial requirements necessary for the next year and any amount the library board believes will be necessary to levy taxes for the library's next fiscal year, shall be submitted to the governing board of the municipality no less than 60 days prior to when the tax levy must be certified under the Property Tax Code (rather than 60 days after the expiration of the fiscal year). The changes are effective immediately.

Illinois Local Library Act: Advisory Question

On August 25, 2017, Senate Bill 2068 was signed into law as Public Act 100-0462. The bill amends the Illinois Local Library Act. It provides that by a vote of the majority of the members of the Board of Trustees of a public library, the board may authorize an advisory question directly related to the operation of the library to be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election in the city, village, incorporated town, or township in which the public library is located. The bill further provides that the Board shall certify the question to the proper election authority who shall submit the question at an election in accordance with the Election Code. The bill amends the Public Library District Act of 1991 making similar changes. The changes are effective immediately.

Municipal Code: Public Property Bids

On August 25, 2017, House Bill 0547 was signed into law as Public Act 100-0338. The bill amends the Illinois Municipal Code to increase the base amount to \$25,000 for public improvement or maintenance of public property at which a municipality must enter into a contract by public bid of four-fifths council approval. If the contract is approved by council, the base amount of expenses that must be taken by public bid is \$25,000. The bill also amends the Illinois Local Library Act to provide that before the Board of Library Trustees may commence construction, remodeling, repairing, or improving a library building, it shall advertise for bids if the cost of the project exceeds \$25,000. The bill also amends the Public Library District Act of 1991 making similar changes. The changes are effective immediately.

Please contact us if you have any questions as to how this new legislation will impact your library, and if we can assist in modifying your library's current policies or procedures to meet the requirements of this new legislation.

For any questions or comments you might have regarding this newsletter, please feel free to contact:

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