

Division of Library Development and Services

The Division of Library Development and Services, established within the State Department of Education by the General Assembly of 1945, is responsible for providing leadership for the planning and coordinated development of library and information services in the State, for developing the necessary information networks and resource centers, and for providing technical and advisory services to public, school and institutional libraries. The Division develops State plans, standards, and programs for libraries provided for in the law. It is responsible for the provision of an interlibrary loan service of materials through contract with the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore with back-up resources being provided through the McKel-din Library of the University of Maryland. Chapter 770, Acts of 1971 provided for the establishment of regional resource centers outside the Baltimore metropolitan area and designed the Enoch Pratt Free Library as a State resource center. The Division also provides library services for the blind and physically handicapped readers in the State and gives advisory and planning services to Maryland State institutions and agencies. The Division of Library Development and Services coordinates library service with local community and educational agencies and administers State and Federal funds available for library purposes. Federal programs are: (1) Library Services and Construction Act; Titles I, II, and III (PL 89-511 as amended), and (2) The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; Title II (PL 89-10) (Code 1957, 1969 Repl. Vol., 1971 Supp., Art. 77, secs. 162-189).

Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries

Wallace D. Miller, 1972; Vera Berkman, 1973; Marvin Coolidge Davis, 1974; Robert A. Mills, 1975; James A. Avirett, library trustee, 1975; Eugene K. Lewis, 1976; Mrs. Dennis German, professional librarian, 1976; C. Keating Bowie, President of the Enoch Pratt Free Library Board of Trustees; Virginia Phillips, President of the Maryland Library Association; Margaret Chisholm, Dean of the School of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland; William P. Chaffinch, Chairman, Council on Higher Education.

The Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries was created by Chapter 770, Acts of 1971 to gather information pertaining to the needs of libraries throughout the State, render advice for consideration by the Division of Library Development and Services, the State Superintendent of Schools, the State Board of Education, and the Governor and engage in other activities to promote continued improvement of library services in the State.

The Council consists of eleven members, each of whom must be residents of the State. The Governor appoints seven of the members for terms of five years, but no member may serve more than two consecutive terms. Of the appointed members, one must be a library trustee, and one a professional librarian. Five members represent the general public, but each must be knowledgeable in library and public affairs. The remaining members must be the Chairman of the Council on Higher Education, the President of the Enoch Pratt Free Library Board of Trustees, the President of the Maryland Library Association, and the Dean of the School of Library and Information Services of the University of Maryland or their designated representatives. The Governor designates the Chairman, while the Council members select the Vice Chairman. The Assistant Superintendent for Libraries of the State Department of Education acts as Secretary to the Council.