POSES OF THIS SUBTITLE IN THE SAME MANNER AS HE DISBURSES OTHER FUNDS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

164.

In order to provide for public libraries and for the coordination and development of other library services, there is hereby established a central State library agency in the State Department of Education known as the Division of Library Development and Services. The Division shall be under the immediate supervision of a director whose title is Assistant Superintendent for Libraries. The Assistant Superintendent for Libraries shall be appointed by the State Board of Education on the recommendation of the State Superintendent of Schools. He shall hold an advanced degree in library and information service, shall have had administrative experience in libraries and such other qualifications as the State Superintendent may deem advisable in order to provide for the efficient development of a statewide library service.

165.

There shall be a professional and clerical staff in the Division of Library Development and Services as necessary to make effective the provisions of this subtitle and for which provision is to MAY be made in the State budget. The director and other employees of the Division shall receive salaries as provided in the State budget. The professional staff shall be appointed and may be removed in the same manner as the other members of the professional staff to the State Department of Education and are subject to the same general control, rules and regulations.

166.

Under the general direction of the State Board of Education, and subject to its approval, the Division of Library Development and Services shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To provide leadership and guidance for the planning and coordinated development of library and information service in the State;
- (2) To develop statewide public library and school library services, and library networks, resource centers, and other arrangements as will meet the library and information needs of the State;
- (3) To provide through contractual and other arrangements for an adequate resource of books and other specialized materials to supplement the resources of libraries in the State;
- (4) (3) To provide professional and technical advisory services to public library and school library officials, to State government agencies, and others for the purpose of improving library services in the State;
- (5) (4) To collect library statistics and other data; to identify and provide for needed research and studies of library needs; and to publish and disseminate findings in these areas;