

Analyzing the Governor's Budget for FY 2018

February 1, 2017

Libraries

Overall, the Governor's Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget recommends \$25.4 million to fund libraries, an increase of \$252,000 (1.0 percent) from current FY 2017 levels. When the effects of inflation are taken into account, this relatively small percentage increase in nominal funding levels translates into a small cut for libraries.

More notable than the difference between the Governor's proposed FY 2018 funding levels and current FY 2017 funding levels, however, is the very steep drop in annual state support for libraries since FY 2001. Where libraries received \$49.1 million in FY 2001 (adjusted for inflation), under the Governor's FY 2018 proposal they would receive \$23.7 million less than in FY 2001, a decline in annual funding of 48.2 percent.

Library Funding Cut Dramatically Since FY 2001 (\$ millions)

