

Dear Committee Members -

My name is Audra MacLaren and I am writing in my capacity as the library director of the Gunn Memorial Library in Washington, CT. I respectfully request that you retain the full amount of the CT State Library's BorrowIT payments. This activity also counts as part of the state library's 'Maintenance of Effort' (MOE) for federal funding, this cut would mean a great loss of federal funding. The cuts will have a significant impact on all libraries throughout the state of Connecticut but especially the small, rural libraries in Connecticut. We must not lose this funding. The service allows libraries to provide greater, wider services to our communities. CLC has lost 65% of its state funding over the past 12 years. Every cut to state funding (both this year and historically) decreases the ability of Connecticut libraries to provide resources to their community and to save staff and municipal resources via CLC's cooperative programs and publicly bid contracts.

Please keep our funding!