



Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum and Committee Reports

This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will have meetings on the following dates in 2018-19: September 20, 2018; November 29, 2018; January 31, 2019; April 11, 2019; and June 13, 2019. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board liaison and the ILA office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401, Chicago, IL 60654-6799; fax: 312-644-1899; email: dfoote@ila.org.

Public Policy

Forum or Committee
Scott Davis

01/23/19

Report completed by

Date

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

At PPC's November meeting the committee agreed to support action in favor of restoring Net Neutrality. We were informed there was one bill currently drafted to tackle that issue, HB 4819, the Broadband Procurement and Disclosure Act, which we gave our support. However, during a subsequent ILA Executive Committee meeting there was discussion that this bill could have unintended consequences on Illinois Century Network, as they get their bandwidth from large providers like AT&T which would undoubtedly be impacted by this proposed legislation. This new development was discussed at the January PPC meeting. The PPC Chair inquired if anyone had contacted ICN to find out if they support the bill. When told no one had, Greg McCormick from the State Library said he would contact them. Greg reported later that day that ICN is opposed to this bill given the negative impact it could have on their ability to continue providing low cost bandwidth to thousands of units of government in the state.

Projected activities during the upcoming months:

- Eagerly finding out about bills already introduced in Springfield and taking appropriate action.
- Following the steps outlined in "Creating or Changing Illinois State Library Law" in regards to our previously approved legislative agenda items.
- Consideration of ILA Annual Conference programs

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board:

On behalf of the Public Policy Committee I ask ILA Executive committee to reconsider their support of HB 4819 as it is currently written. More discussion is warranted to make sure that our taking a mostly symbolic stand does not inadvertently take away low cost internet access to many of our peers across the state.