

Virginia Library Association Legislative Agenda 2013

Agenda items

- 1. Oppose cuts to State funding for public libraries.
- 2. "New Age, New Library;" A Plan to meet the needs of 21st Century library users.

VLA proposes a "New Age, New Library" initiative to provide Virginia public library users with contemporary digital library materials including ebooks, audiobooks, streaming media, and electronic databases.

FY2014 \$1.25 million

A 2012 survey showed the greatest need in Virginia's public libraries is to keep up with public demand for digital information resources. Data from online systems and in-person use counts show that during the recent economic downturn Virginians turned to their public libraries more than ever for assistance in job searching, vocational advancement, and educational reading. This funding will help Virginia's public libraries provide the digital library materials needed by 21st Century library users.

3. Support the Library of Virginia.

VLA will support the Library of Virginia's legislative and budgetary priorities and oppose budget cuts for the Library of Virginia at the 2013 General Assembly Session.