

## **Legislative Committee Report-18**

### **June 9, 2006**

I spoke with treasurer of NDLA and agreed to provide an end of year report on lobbying activities conducted on our behalf. This information is necessary for tax purposes.

In my capacity as Legislative Committee chair I attended a meeting hosted by the State Library in Bismarck on May 5. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together public library trustees and directors from across the state in order to craft a response to the change in interpretation of the State Aid law provided by the Attorney General. After considerable discussion the body adopted a number of resolutions calling for a change in the wording of the State Aid law so that we can revert to the disbursement method used in previous years. We also approved resolutions calling for this to be done on emergency basis (which means it goes into effect immediately upon receipt of the Governor's signature) and calling for the restoration of State Aid funds to those libraries which did not receive anything this year. A separate resolution also called for an increase of \$200,000 in State Aid dollars for next year. All of these motions were passed unanimously by those gathered. Libraries representing an overwhelming majority of the state's population were gathered in Bismarck including Minot, Grand Forks, Fargo, Dickinson, Williston, and Bismarck public, among others. We are hopeful that these issues can be corrected quickly in the 2007 legislative session.