

Memo

To: ILA Executive Board
From: Erin Hasler
Date: October 2, 2006
Re: National Library Legislative Day 2006 – “Rediscover Libraries”

National Library Legislative Day 2006 was held from Monday May 1st thru Wednesday May 3rd. Ann Joslin (Idaho Commission for Libraries) and I represented Idaho and made visits to all four federal offices. John Watts scheduled visits with the offices of Senator Craig, Senator Crapo, Congressman Simpson, and Congressman Otter prior to our arrival in Washington D.C.

Monday the 3rd, consisted of ALA coordinated workshops covering national library issues and what to expect when visiting legislators. National issues this year included:

- LSTA Appropriations and EPA library funding
- E-rate and Net Neutrality
- Fair Use and Copyright Law

Each office was also presented with a local library packet highlighting library services and accomplishments throughout the State of Idaho. Some of these highlights included:

- 2020 Vision
- LiLI-Unlimited funding
- Great statewide outreach and Summer Reading programs funded through LSTA

Ann and I also had the privilege of representing Idaho librarians in congratulating Senator Craig during the “Friends of Libraries USA” award ceremony which honored Idaho Senator Larry Craig and Ohio Senator Richard Durbin with the 2006 Public Service Award for their work regarding privacy rights and the Patriot Act.

National Library Legislative Day is a worthwhile event which builds relationships between the Idaho Library Association and our federal legislators.

I would like to thank the Board for providing me with this opportunity and to consider funding a “non-library” delegate (trustee, community advocate) to attend NLLD 2007.

Next Steps:

- Start building a relationship with local federal offices - Marj Hooper (Idaho Commission for Libraries) and I have already started working on plans to build relationships with the federal offices on the local level. This will strengthen our overall relationship with the federal legislators. Initial visits will take place later this fall, and then hopefully again in the spring before heading out to the national offices for NLLD 2007.