

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans
June 24 - 28, 2011**

Topic: Environmental Scan: Cuts to Federal Library Funding

Background: In order to make informed and timely decisions, it is important for the Board to stay on top of issues that are relevant to the profession YALSA serves or that are impacting associations and governance. An article from *Library Journal* regarding cuts in this year's federal budget to library funding is provided below, as well as links to other articles and information about what associations can do legally in the realm of lobbying. The board may want to discuss the situation regarding federal library funding and explore strategies that YALSA might implement to advocate for funding for libraries.

Action Required: Discussion

"This is very much more than we were anticipating. It's very uneven," she told *LJ*. "If the big issue in this country is jobs, then why are you cutting the place where people in this country go to look for a job when they are out of work? This is the money that pays for the tools that people use to look for a job. That's what's being cut. What does the administration and the Congress not understand about that?" she said.

[For FY12](#), President Obama is [requesting \\$242.6 million](#) for the IMLS, \$193.2 million of which would go to LSTA,

"ALA's message for FY12 is level fund libraries at \$213.5 million," Sheketoff said, referring to the LSTA FY10 appropriation.

Until Congress struck the budget deal, the IMLS had been acting under the continuing spending resolutions that had been passed in September. These provided IMLS a pro-rata sum based on the FY10 appropriation, which totaled \$282.2 million when earmarks are included. However, the