

To: Lisa Heavner, First Selectman
From: Lisa Karim, Library Director
Re: Library Savings through Regionalization
Date: March 27, 2015

Libraries have historically been pioneers in regionalization and its resulting benefits, efficiencies and savings. This is a fact which is often forgotten. I've listed below current CT regionalized library services. Both Connecticut Library Consortium and Connecticard face possible elimination should the Governor's proposed budget be approved.

Integrated Library System (ILS) Consortia

- more efficiently and cost effectively administer and maintain global material databases, automated circulation, email service and training
- negotiate collective discounts for ebooks, digital magazines, databases and more
- Simsbury Public Library is a member of Library Connection Inc (LCI)

Connecticut Library Consortium

- Statewide membership collaborative comprised of all types of libraries
- Leverages collective buying power through statewide contracts to save its 800 members 80% on mission-critical library materials
- Receives 63% of its annual funding through a state-mandated grant
- FY 13-14 CLC state funds received = \$332,500 → savings of over \$7.1 M for its CT member libraries
- Simsbury Public Library's \$660 FY 13-14 CLC membership fee → savings of \$75,461.39 for our library

Connecticard

- State program that allows any resident to use their hometown library card at any of the 192 public libraries in CT, providing equity of access to library materials statewide
- CT libraries saved taxpayers \$68 M in FY 13-14 by borrowing 4.5 items through Connecticard rather than purchasing them
- Simsbury Public Library directly receives approximately \$16,000 in funds annually through our participation in the Connecticard program