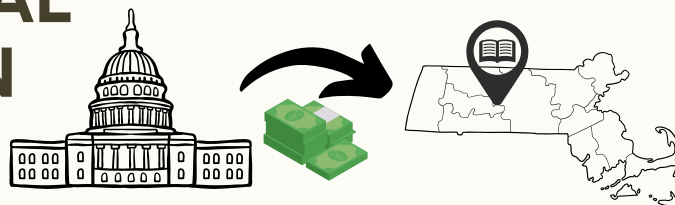


# THE IMPACT OF FEDERAL FUNDING ON WESTERN MA LIBRARIES



## What you should know...



Our public libraries' day-to-day operations and collections are TOWN-funded and TOWN-owned. *They belong to you*, and no one can take your library or its materials away from you.



On March 14, 2025, President Trump signed the executive order Continuing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy, directing the reduction of certain federal agencies, including the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). On March 31, the entire IMLS staff was put on administrative leave.

IMLS grants also provide **\$3.6 million** annually to the MBLC to support essential state-wide library services, such as:

### Library eBooks and Audiobooks



Massachusetts residents borrowed more than 1.9 million eBooks, audiobooks, and more from LEA in 2024, up 19%

### Summer Reading



More than **157,000 children, teens, and adults** participated in summer reading programs in Massachusetts.

### The Commonwealth Catalog (ComCat)



Libraries save money because they don't have to purchase every item residents need. **More than 110,000** items were circulated via ComCat in 2024.

### Research Databases



About 60% of database usage comes from schools. Last year, there were over 9 million full text downloads, an increase of 12%.

**Advocacy efforts to our Congressional Delegation can help ensure that these critical resources remain available to our Ware community.**

#### Senator Edward Markey

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-2742

#### Representative Richard Neal

372 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 225-5601

#### Senator Elizabeth Warren

311 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4543

Massachusetts Libraries  
BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

