

## [Baker Free Library e-Newsletter Special Edition](#)

# Have You Ever Used Our Interlibrary Loan Service?

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Hundreds of our patrons use interlibrary loan each year to borrow items that are not available at the Baker Free Library. The New Hampshire state legislature wants to reallocate the majority of the federal funding supporting the interlibrary loan van service to other undefined purposes. The Baker Free Library Board of Trustees sent a letter to the State Librarian, copied to Bow's state representatives, Executive Councilor, and state senator, asking that funding for the ILL service be kept at the current levels.



## Some ILL Statistics to consider...

### What effect would a funding reduction have?

- Interlibrary loans will take longer to arrive. On July 1st our van deliveries were cut from two per week to one per week, delaying our ILL arrivals by two weeks or more. If the van service is cut further (down to one van for the whole state as stipulated by the House), Baker Free Library would receive one delivery every month at most, and would be very limited in the amount of items we could request or send.
- Interlibrary loans will cost more. Rather than transferring items by van, we may need to pay postage -- nearly a 700% increase in costs (see below).

With the vans, each item costs \$0.44 to transport. This is entirely supported by federal funding.

Mailing each item would cost approximately \$3, plus significantly more staff time than is currently expended.

Baker Free Library had 2,867 interlibrary loans (lent and borrowed) in 2010.

**The cost of BFL's 2010**

### What can you do to help?

- Visit the library and sign a petition. The petitions will be available through November 1st, and then delivered to the State Librarian so that he can use them with the petitions from the other 240+ libraries across the state to convince the House that New Hampshire citizens want the ILL service to remain as it is.
- Contact your elected representatives and ask them to protect funding for the ILL vans. Use the "Who's My Legislator" service for contact information.
- Write to State Librarian Michael York about the value that interlibrary loan has for you. Mr. York is compiling a report on the impact a funding reduction would have, and is seeking comments to include. You can contact him at Michael.York@dcr.nh.gov or Michael York, NH State Library, 20 Park Street, Concord, NH 03301-6314.

### Do you want more information?

For more information on the proposed funding cuts and their effects, please visit [www.nhlta.com](http://www.nhlta.com) or read this article ("[Rep targets federal inter-library grant](#)") published in the *Concord Monitor* on 10/7/2011.

**Thank you for your time and  
for supporting this important**

**interlibrary loans with  
the van service was  
\$1,261, paid by federal  
funds.**

**Without the vans, BFL's  
2010 interlibrary loans  
would have cost the  
Bow community over  
\$8,600.**

The vans currently transport 800,000 items per year statewide. Mailing all of these items instead would cost nearly \$2.5 million, plus hundreds of additional hours of work in the 240+ public libraries across the state.

# service!

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