

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE 2016-17

Legislative activity at the state level was relatively quiet this year as there were no bills affecting public libraries. We have watched the progress of the Capital Budget, which includes funds for the State Library's Union Catalog. \$487,781 for this important project is included in both the House and Senate versions of the capital appropriations bill, so it should pass.

NHLTA's attention has been focused on the federal budget process, since federal funding for library services, along with other "discretionary" programs, was deleted from the President's budget proposals. We have weighed in with our Washington delegation, which has unanimously supported retaining these funds, which support the ILL van service and the Talking Books Services managed by the State Library. This challenge to library funding has stimulated a closer working relationship between NHLTA and the NH Library Association to strengthen our advocacy effectiveness.

Members are: Ed Moran, Chair, Susan Gaudiello, Tom Ladd, and Mary Castelli.