Trustee Report
Manske Library Board
August 14, 2025
Submitted by Lee Alvoid

Updates concerning Legislation followed during the regular session of the Texas legislature in Spring 2025.

House Bill 3225

Relating to the prohibition of access by minors to sexually explicit materials in municipal public library collections; providing a civil penalty.

This Bill was not approved during the regular session. May reappear in future special or regular sessions.

Bill Text: TX HB3225 | 2025-2026 | 89th Legislature | Introduced | LegiScan

House Bill 2572
Relating to the authority of a public library to financially support the American Library Association.

This Bill never made it to the floor of the regular session in neither house nor senate.

Texas-2025-HB2572-Introduced

Senate Bill 13
Relating to a school district's library materials and catalog, the creation of local school library advisory councils, and parental rights regarding public school library catalogs and access by the parent's child to library materials.

This Bill was passed, signed into law and is currently in the hands of local school districts to develop policies and procedures for implementation.

Bill Text: TX SB13 | 2025-2026 | 89th Legislature | Engrossed | LegiScan

I will update any new legislation from the current special session when available.

Emerging trends in Library and Information Science

This abstract from the Journal of Behavioral Sciences summarizes issues that both university and public libraries are studying. Some of the more interesting ideas to me are the issues of privacy, the bias of algorithms, and the efforts libraries must make to "disentangle themselves from ethical and social problems in the digital space." The speed of the development of AI and its implications continues to be complicated by the lack of training for staff and a lack of experience with AI for candidates for positions in libraries. Here is the abstract:

Abstract: This article examines the ongoing Library and Information Science (LIS) research, whose dramatic transformations it notes as a function of technological advancement, ongoing evolution in user expectation, and an emphasis on equitable information access. Innovative technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), big data analytics, and block chain are modernizing information management and library services as key areas of investigation. It also mentioned that there are user centered approaches to promote inclusivity and community engagement as well as ethical problems, including data privacy, algorithmic bias. The research also shows how libraries are vital to academic and professional research work, and how they must also disentangle themselves from social and ethical problems in the digital space. It also urges for a multidisciplinary perspective in LIS research, that is, to conduct collaboration with other fields for addressing the requirements of many different user communities. The goal is to foster future library practices that take advantage of the new opportunities presented, and professional landscape of LIS that ensures libraries are relevant and responsive to new societal needs.

22-emerging-trends-in-library-muhammad-waqar-abbasi.pdf

Summer Reading in Michigan

Since the Manske summer reading program has wound down for 2025, this article about a twist to a similar program in Ann Arbor MI, gives fuel for future planning. The library included more than just reading lists or types of books to read, they incorporated many diverse types of library usage categories to make the accumulation of points for the program more varied and comprehensive. While many of the ideas have been emulated in Farmers Branch, like partnering with Parks and Recreation, and the Historical Park. The Ann Arbor program attracted many adults to play in their "Summer Game" program. The article is in the link below.

How a public library's summer game took over Ann Arbor, Mich. : NPR