

Illinois State Library  
Gwendolyn Brooks Building  
300 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

May 30, 2003

RE: Local use only cards and Non-participating libraries.

This correspondence is in response to your inquiry of May 1, 2003 in regards to the non-resident rules. Specifically you inquired, "if a public library opts out of participating in the non-resident library card program, they cannot issue their own local use cards and they do not have to honor other libraries non-resident cards".

On the issue of "local use only cards", you are correct. Public Act 92-166 specifically deleted the statutory language that permitted "local use only cards". Therefore that past practice has been legislatively abolished.

On the issue of non-participating libraries not honoring the non-resident cards of another library, that practice is permitted. As part of the process of creating rules for the non-resident issue, the State Library amended the Library System Act Administrative Rules (23 IL Adm 3030.35 b-2). To be full members of a library system, non-participating libraries must honor the cards of residents of other libraries for reciprocal borrowing purposes. However, as amended, the Administrative Rules now state that public libraries that do not opt out of the non-resident card program shall honor non-resident library cards of the system area. The Administrative Rule change to the Library System Act was not posted on the Illinois State Library web site inadvertently. A copy of that rule is attached. We apologize for the oversight.

Thank you for contacting the Illinois State Library. Please let me know if you have any further questions or concerns with this matter.

Sincerely,

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Chief Deputy Director  
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