

**Senate Study Bill 3166 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON GREEN)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to city libraries, including library directors  
2 and library projects and initiatives.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 392.5, Code 2024, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **392.5 Library board.**

4 1. *a.* A city library board of trustees functioning on the  
5 effective date of the city code shall continue to function in  
6 the same manner until altered or discontinued ~~as provided in~~  
7 ~~this section.~~

8 *b.* In order for the board to function in the same manner,  
9 the council shall retain all applicable ordinances, and shall  
10 adopt as ordinances all applicable state statutes repealed by  
11 1972 Iowa Acts, ch. 1088.

12 2. A library board may accept and control the expenditure of  
13 all gifts, devises, and bequests to the library.

14 3. ~~*a.* A proposal to alter the composition, manner of~~  
15 ~~selection, or charge of a library board, or to replace it with~~  
16 ~~an alternate form of administrative agency, is subject to the~~  
17 ~~approval of the voters of the city.~~

18 ~~*b.* The proposal may be submitted to the voters at any city~~  
19 ~~election by the council on its own motion. Upon receipt of a~~  
20 ~~valid petition as defined in [section 362.4](#), requesting that a~~  
21 ~~proposal be submitted to the voters, the council shall submit~~  
22 ~~the proposal at the next regular city election. A proposal~~  
23 ~~submitted to the voters must describe with reasonable detail~~  
24 ~~the action proposed.~~

25 ~~*c.* If a majority of those voting approves the proposal, the~~  
26 ~~city may proceed as proposed.~~

27 ~~*d.* If a majority of those voting does not approve the~~  
28 ~~proposal, the same or a similar proposal may not be submitted~~  
29 ~~to the voters of the city for at least four years from the date~~  
30 ~~of the election at which the proposal was defeated. A council~~  
31 ~~may oversee and change the practice related to hiring a library~~  
32 ~~director and utilize moneys collected pursuant to section~~  
33 ~~8A.222 for library projects and initiatives by ordinance and~~  
34 ~~without a referendum.~~

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EXPLANATION

1           The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
2           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3       This bill relates to city library directors and city library  
4 policies and initiatives.

5       Under current law, a city council may, on its own motion,  
6 or shall, upon receipt of a valid petition, submit a proposal  
7 to alter the composition, selection process, or charge of the  
8 library board to the voters of the city. The bill strikes this  
9 provision and allows a city council to oversee and change the  
10 hiring practice for a library director and utilize library tax  
11 moneys for library projects and initiatives by ordinance and  
12 without a referendum.