



South Haven Memorial Library patrons:

We have received some questions from our patrons regarding the Executive Order signed on March 14, 2025, Continuing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy, directing further cuts to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

If IMLS is dismantled, all Michigan libraries will be affected to some degree. While the South Haven Memorial Library receives the majority of its yearly revenue from local property taxes, the most significant impact of this Executive Order to our services could be the potential loss of the Michigan Electronic Library (MeL) and MeLCat, which may cease to exist if this funding is eliminated.

MeL and MeLCat provide interlibrary loan and resource-sharing services, allowing libraries across Michigan to lend and share materials. In 2024 alone, more than 980,000 items were loaned to patrons throughout the state. The library could also lose access to MeL funded databases that provide authoritative sources on education, medicine, business, and history, among other topics.

THANK YOU!