



MEMO

TO: SHARE Executive Council

FROM: Chris Dawdy, SHARE Director

DATE: April 7, 2016

RE: Consultation with Mr. Phil Lenzini, Attorney

At the direction of the SHARE Finance/Policy Committee, I contacted Mr. Phil Lenzini to gain his legal opinion on what SHARE's options are with regard to sustainability as an organization, and what actions should be taken to protect SHARE's assets.

First, Mr. Lenzini stated that he did not believe there needs to be a concern about a take-over of the LLSAP (SHARE) by another organization at this time. However, he did encourage the organization to consider becoming an independent not-for-profit organization. As such, any assets owned by SHARE are corporate, and not owned by the library system. He also stated that as a not-for-profit organization, not associated with either a library system or government, SHARE would not be subject to Open Meeting Act laws. He also suggested that if the bottom falls out completely and IHLS ceases to exist, SHARE can still function as an organization, though it might have to take on some debt to continue functioning. He stated that the strength of SHARE is in its' member libraries, and that the organization should keep its' options open to depart from the library system and ties to government, though there could be a decrease in funding available, as a result.