Indian River County

Board of County Commissioners

General Services Department
Library Division
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MEMORANDUM

Date:	**September 22, 2017**
To:	**The Honorable Board of County Commissioners**
Thru:	**Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator/ General Services Director**
From:	**Anne Shepherd, Library Director**
Subject:	**Library Services Request for Consideration to run a Fine Amnesty Campaign October 17 – 31, 2017**

DESCRIPTION

The Indian River County Library Services fine policy was established to encourage patrons to return checked out items in a timely manner making those items available for future use by others. Sometimes the fine prevents a patron from using the Library, they may not have the ability to pay the fine or they may be reluctant to return the items, not being sure what the fee will be. A fine amnesty is an opportunity for patrons to return late items fine free to clear their accounts and begin using the libraries again. This amnesty does not include lost or damaged items and it does not retroactively apply to fines already paid. The proposed amnesty period would apply to current outstanding Indian River County Library items that are late in being returned. Fines are currently $.25 a day for late books and $.50 a day for media items including DVD's, Audio Books and Music on CD.

The primary benefit is more citizens will use the Libraries when the current fines are cleared up, especially children or elderly people. The campaign would begin on October 17, which is an Open House at the Brackett Library and the amnesty will be a feature of the open house. The amnesty would end on October 31st, Halloween. We plan to use themes such as: "You won't scare us with your late items, treat us with your late items and don't let your late items scare you!"

FUNDING:

No Funding is required for this item.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends Board approve the Fine Amnesty campaign from October 17, to October 31, 2017.