

Late Fines Eliminated At LA County Libraries

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LOS ANGELES (CBSLA) — Book lovers, rejoice! Late fines have been eliminated from LA County Libraries.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion Tuesday from Supervisor Janice Hahn to immediately eliminate late fines from the county's 86 branches.

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"Library late fines do much more harm than good," Hahn said in a statement. "They make up less than 1% of the Library's revenue and they can dissuade people from using the Library's service."

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All fines and fees for overdue books and other library materials will be waived effective immediately. Fines for overdue library materials were originally implemented as a source of revenue, but they make up a minuscule percentage of the library's revenue and staffing costs associated with collecting late fees exceeds the fees collected in the past two fiscal years.

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LA County is just the latest large library system to move to a fine-free model. In recent years, libraries in the [city of Los Angeles](#), San Diego, San Francisco, Chicago, and Denver have also adopted a fine-free model – and a release from Hahn's office says research shows such policies have led to a 200% increase in returned library books and other materials.



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