



**YOUR FINES ARE FORGIVEN!**  
**Starting June 1st, Mono County Library is no longer charging daily overdue fines!**

### **Why is the Library doing this?**

*Data shows overdue fines disproportionately act as a barrier to using the library for people who cannot afford them, while no study shows that such fines are effective at fostering 'good behavior'. Most people return books on time even in libraries that do not charge fines. The people who do pay overdue fines are most often those who can afford them.*

### **Can the Library afford this?**

*Fines represent less than 1% of our revenue so we are able to afford this change.*

### **Are other libraries doing this?**

*Yes, Mono County is the 79th public library in California to make this change. The American Library Association passed a resolution in 2019 calling for an end to overdue fines and hundreds of libraries nationwide have done so.*

### **How will this work?**

*The Library has already paused fines during the pandemic, so this change will make it permanent. All past overdue fines will be zeroed out.*

*In place of collecting fines, we will send a gentle 'courtesy notice' via email 3 days prior to an item's due date to encourage you to return or renew it on time. You will be able to renew if no one else is waiting for it and if you fail to do so will get an overdue notice a week later, and if still not returned or renewed after 4 weeks, a notice your account is being placed on hold. At that point, please come in or contact us to resolve the issue.*

*Most library materials are purchased with tax dollars. You are still responsible to a pay a replacement fee if an item is lost or damaged, but please do not let that situation stop you from using the library if you do not have the money to pay it right away. We will work with you.*

### **I have overdue books at home, can I return them?**

**Yes! No questions asked!** *Simply return them in the outside book drop of any of the 7 Mono County Libraries in Benton, Coleville, Bridgeport, Lee Vining, June Lake, Mammoth Lakes or Crowley Lake. No overdue fines will be charged and your return is anonymous to others.*

**Thank you for using your Mono County Libraries!**