

I am writing in support of the School Libraries Act H5488. Our school libraries are essential resources for all Rhode Island students, and students should have equitable access to them as the center for learning and discovery in every school. I want school libraries to remain open for all current and future students, no matter the socioeconomic setting, and, for that reason, I am urging you to support H5488 which will guarantee that we keep our school libraries and school librarians in every school.

As a librarian and a mother, I know the importance of the school library as a quiet place to study/read, somewhere to go for extra help, a research center, and a safe space for so many. Please do right by our students and give them all access to a school library and certified librarian. Thank you for your time.

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"Words are, in my not-so-humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic. Capable of both inflicting injury and remedying it." — **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows**