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To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>
Subject: S 2078

I am writing today to express my strong support for Bill S 2078, which seeks to ensure that every student in Rhode Island has access to a certified school library media specialist.

As a librarian fortunate enough to be assigned to a single school, I see firsthand how vital this role is to the daily ecosystem of student success. Because I am present in one building full-time, I am able to collaborate with teachers with ease. This consistency allows us to weave

information literacy, research skills, and a love for reading directly into the curriculum across all subjects.

When a librarian is shared between buildings, collaboration becomes a "scheduled event" rather than a natural partnership. Being on-site allows me to pivot quickly to support a teacher's lesson or assist a student the moment a curiosity strikes.

In an era of rampant misinformation, students need a dedicated professional to teach them how to navigate complex digital landscapes. S 2078 ensures that a student's access to a high-quality library program isn't determined by their zip code or the specific staffing budget of their school.

Rhode Island students deserve a learning environment where the library is a staffed, functional hub of discovery. By passing S 2078, you are investing in the foundational skills of research, critical thinking, and literacy that will serve our students long after they leave our classrooms.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to Rhode Island's students.

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