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Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 11:13 AM
To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>
Subject: Support for S2078 RI School Libraries Act

To the Rhode Island Senate Education Committee:

I am writing in strong support of the Rhode Island School Libraries Act S2078. High-quality school library programs staffed by full-time, state-certified school librarians ensure that all students in Rhode Island develop critical literacy, research, media literacy, and digital citizenship skills while fostering a lifelong love of reading.

School librarians also play a vital role in social-emotional learning by creating safe, inclusive spaces and curating diverse collections that build empathy and belonging. In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, certified librarians explicitly teach students how to use emerging technologies—including artificial intelligence—ethically and responsibly, helping them understand issues of bias, privacy, authorship, and academic integrity, and preparing them to be thoughtful, informed participants in a technology-driven world.

As the librarian at Mt. Hope High School in Bristol, Rhode Island, I work tirelessly to create a space where students feel safe and supported, and where faculty and staff know they can go for curriculum supporting resources and instructional coaching. Hundreds of students pass through my library each day and will be better prepared for college and career because of the time spent in my school library. Mt. Hope High School Library is the learning and information hub of our school because Bristol Warren understands the value of a high quality library media program.

Please pass Rhode Island School Libraries Act S2078 so all students across the state of Rhode Island can have equitable access to high quality library media programs.

Thank you.

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Librarian

Mt. Hope High School

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