



The Voice of the Library Community

New York Library Association

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2014 NYLA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

BUDGET PRIORITY

Fully Fund NYS Libraries at \$102M as Mandated in Education Law

Provide desperately needed funding to maintain NYS's critical information infrastructure. Enable libraries to continue delivering needed educational and enrichment services to every New Yorker.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Library Construction Aid & Matching Provisions

S.6329 Farley / A.8732 Thiele

Retain current program guidelines on matching requirements to ensure libraries in economically disadvantaged areas are able to make needed capital improvements.

Exempt Public Libraries and Library Systems from the MTA Payroll Tax

S.1891 Martins / A.1665 Abinanti

Include libraries with educational institutions already exempt from the commuter tax.

Maintenance of Effort Waivers

S.2857-A Farley /

Allows libraries to apply for maintenance of effort waivers to be granted by the NYS Commissioner of Education for a period of up to three years (proposed amended language).

Encourage Digital Literacy Education in our Schools

S.2855 Farley / A.8735 Thiele

Substitutes the term "digital literacy" for the dated term "internet safety" in Education Law to better prepare students to effectively use technology.

EDC Study on Economic Benefits of Public Libraries

S.5854 Farley / A.7666-A Kellner

Allows the Economic Development Corporation to conduct a study on the economic impact of public libraries and library systems in New York State.

Expand Access to Certified School Librarians and Libraries

Students with access to school libraries staffed by certified School Library Media Specialists consistently score higher on tests by the fourth grade.

Taxpayer Access to Publicly-Funded Research

S.4050 Robach / A.180 Hevesi

Requires publicly-funded research that has been submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journals to be made available online.