



The Voice of the Library Community

New York Library Association

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S8213 (Ryan) / A 6153A (Rosenthal)

An act to amend the education law, in relation to requiring teachers and library media specialists to complete professional development related to media literacy education

The New York Library Association (NYLA) supports the above referenced legislation.

If enacted, this bill would require teachers and certified school librarians to receive professional development related to media literacy. The tiered training, 5 hours for teachers and 15 hours for librarians, would be deducted from the required 100 hours required by education law.

Our school's teachers and librarians have a responsibility to provide a comprehensive education to students, in a safe, welcoming, and unbiased environment. With a growing dependence on technology and social media, educators must ensure students have the ability to identify, analyze and use the information they receive outside the classroom safely. This act is known as media literacy. Media literacy is a broad term which encompasses the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create and act using all forms of communication and provides individuals with the foundational skills that are required to be a digital citizen.

By including media literacy as a topic within the existing PD mandate, we are ensuring our educators have the tools and resources needed to understand the constantly changing needs of our students in the classroom and digital world.

For these reasons, the New York Library Association urges the legislature to pass S8213/A6153A.

For additional information, please contact Briana McNamee at the New York Library Association at 518.432.6952.