



The Voice of the Library Community

New York Library Association

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S8215 (Ryan) / A 8222 (Rosenthal)

An act to amend the education law, in relation to creating a set of media literacy standards for students in grades kindergarten through twelve

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

If enacted, this legislation would direct the State Education Department to develop a set of media literacy standards and ensure media literacy education is being provided to students across New York State. Such standards will ensure that all students, grades K-12, are receiving broad media literacy education that is inclusive of the use of technology and social media, responsible online behavior, proper use of online resources for research, curating a positive digital footprint, internet safety, civility and more.

Media literacy is a comprehensive term that encompasses an individual's ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act using all forms of communication. These five foundational skills result in an individual being a responsible and safe digital citizen.

There has never been a time in our history where individuals have had access to the amount of information that we do today. This media, whether it is print, art, digital or other medium such as videography, is processed differently by each individual. The skills, experiences and competencies that are reflected in the standards sought by S8215/A8222 are vital in individuals of all ages to be stewards of information.

Media literacy is essential. As such, the New York Library Association and its member urge you to pass S8215/A8222, sponsored by Senator Ryan & Assemblymember Rosenthal.

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