



Jeremy Johannesen
Executive Director
New York Library Association
6021 State Farm Rd
Guilderland, NY 12084

2 February, 2020

Dear Jeremy:

The Library Trustees Association of New York State wholeheartedly supports the proposed act to amend the education law, in relation to requiring members of a board of trustees of public, free association and Indian libraries to complete continuing education, S.7285 and A.9551.

The LTA is a statewide organization that represents, assists, educates and honors public library boards and their trustees as providers of universal library service. Our core activities include:

- Advocating support for libraries and their programs;
- Communicating with library trustees to inform them of issues affecting libraries and library service;
- Educating trustees about their role in the library, and;
- Recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of library trustees.

We are recognized as a key organization providing programs and educational opportunities that help library trustees understand and implement the duties commonly referred to "care, loyalty and obedience" as they oversee their library's finances, policies, and services. We regularly hold Institutes and workshops that offer information on a variety of legal, financial, governance and programmatic issues. Library Trustees in New York State oversee an estimated \$1.6 billion of the public's money - a responsibility that must be undertaken by informed, thoughtful, prudent, and trustworthy library boards.

Having annual required training will ensure that this responsibility is met. This act to amend the education law should be passed as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Jean Currie
President