



**ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

SUBJECT: Funding of Public Libraries.

PURPOSE: To examine the 2016-2017 State Budget's impact on the mission of New York State libraries in the 21st Century.

ALBANY, NEW YORK

Tuesday

December 13, 2016

10:30 a.m.

Hamilton Hearing Room B

Albany, New York 12248

The final approved budget for state fiscal year 2016-17 provided \$95.6 million in state aid for libraries and library systems. This is an approximate increase of 4.3%, or \$4 million, from the state fiscal year 2015-16 budget allocation of \$91.627 million. In addition, the 2016-2017 budget allocated to the Public Library Construction Grant Program \$19 million, an increase of \$5 million.

This hearing will seek testimony on the impact of the 2016-17 State Budget on the mission of public libraries and library systems in the 21st century. The Committee is interested in hearing about the programs and services libraries are providing in their local communities and how libraries are collaborating and using technology to better leverage their resources. The Committee is also seeking testimony to ascertain the future funding needs of our public libraries and the Public Library Construction Grant Program. Specifically, this hearing will seek testimony on: how libraries and library systems throughout New York State can realize greater savings by engaging in collective purchasing actions, methods that can create efficiencies and conserve resources for libraries, and how to ensure libraries have the resources and are able to collaborate in ways that save money and ensure they are keeping pace with the technological changes in the 21st century.

Persons wishing to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

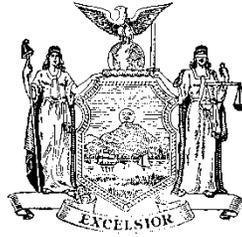
Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or

communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committee's interest in hearing testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.



Assembly Standing Committee on Libraries and Education Technology

Funding Public Libraries in New York State

December 13, 2016, 10:30 A.M.

Albany, New York

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Witness List

Mike Nepl, Director of Government Relations and Advocacy
New York Library Association

Panel

Michele Bonan, Vice President of Government and Community Relations
Brooklyn Public Library

Norah Yahya, Associate Director of Government and Community Affairs
New York Public Library

Jonathan Chung, Director of Government Affairs
Queens Library

Nick Buron, Chief Librarian
Queens Library

Scott Jarzombek, Executive Director
Albany Public Library

Elizabeth Berlin, Executive Deputy Commissioner
State Education Department

Bernard Margolis, Assistant Commissioner for Libraries and Acting State Librarian
State Education Department

Panel

Terry Kirchner, Director
Westchester Library System

Rob Caluori, Director of IT
Westchester Library System

Robert Hubsher, Executive Director
Ramapo Catskill Library System

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Coordinator for Library Sustainability
Mid- Hudson Library System

Panel

Nate Hill, Executive Director
Metro New York Library Counsel

Kathleen Gundrum, Executive Director
Capital District Library Council

Panel

Dr. Colleen Sadowski, Director of School Library Systems and Media Services
Rochester City School District

J'aime Pfeiffer, School Library System Director
WSWHE BOCES

Panel

Wanda Bruchis, Director
Mid York Library System

Darby O'Brien, Director
Utica Public Library

Timothy Burke, Executive Director
Upper Hudson Library System

Panel

Brian Hildreth, Executive Director
Southern Tier Library System

Lauren Moore, Executive Director
Pioneer Library System