

## **Tell your local legislators what your library means to you!**

More than ever, the library and librarian are central to maintaining equal access to information. Whether you use a public, school, academic, hospital, research or other library, the fact is that these are the places best situated to guide information seekers to the most credible and useful sources whatever the need! They are also places where anyone can visit (physically or virtually) and enjoy the pleasure of reading and learning, regardless of skin color, gender, religion, economic status or any other distinction.

In effect, libraries are treasures shared by everyone, but they also face persistent undervaluation. Don't take your library for granted! Make sure your government representatives understand the importance of the library to you and those in your family and community!

Library advocates have been told that the most effective game changer for library funding is when government officials receive personal letters, emails, and phone calls from constituents, stating that their library is important to them. So now we are asking YOU to write that letter, send that email, or make that call –right now!

### **Here's what you can do:**

Simply put in your own words, WHY YOU NEED YOUR LIBRARY! You can be brief or not.

If you feel "stuck," here are some "prompts" to help you:

- I need my library because it is the place I like to go to do my homework
- I need my library because it has so many great programs for my children, like...
- I need my library because I can read/download the latest books for free
- I need my library because it is where my XYZ group regularly meets
- I need my library because it is where I can use the Internet
- I need my library because it is a place where I can get help finding what I need
- I need my library because it is somewhere I can take my grandchildren
- I need my library....

**Once you have put your thoughts in order, it is time to take action! Reach out to your local legislators and share those thoughts.**

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