

2023-03-01 Koff SB 502 support letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Alexander Koff

Position: FAV

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am a Trustee and a member of the Board of Directors of the Enoch Pratt Free Library (the Pratt Library), where I serve as Vice-Chair. Among other committees, I serve on the Legislative Committee. I write to express my strong support for **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

The branches of the Pratt Library are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent, we help bridge our city's digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State University, our libraries provide customers access to social work and legal services. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms offer non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

The Pratt Library operates one of the oldest library systems in the United States, operating out of twenty-two locations of which nineteen—over 86 percent—are more than 50 years old (with six branches over 100 years old). Deferred maintenance adversely affects vital library services. In the last 18 months, we lost approximately 2,200 public service hours due to failing heating and air conditioning systems. The Pratt Library needs to address Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and building code deficiencies. Pratt Library spaces need modernization to provide library services as required today. Flexible spaces are recommended to meet community's changing needs.

I support SB 502 fully and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Alexander Koff
Board of Directors — Vice Chair, Enoch Pratt Free Library
Board of Trustees, Enoch Pratt Free Library

cc: members, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

SB 501 Testimony GK.pdf

Uploaded by: Gordon Krabbe

Position: FAV



ENOCH PRATT
free LIBRARY

March 28, 2023

Chairman Benjamin Barnes
House Appropriations Committee
House Office Building

Dear Chairman Barnes and members of the Appropriation Committee:

I am the Chief Operating Officer of the Enoch Pratt Free Library and I strongly support **SB 501 Libraries – Aging Infrastructure Improvement Grant Program** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library systems across the state.

Libraries are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent for our customers, we help bridge that digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State, our customers can access social work and legal services in the community. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms allow non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

The Enoch Pratt Free Library operates one of the oldest library systems in the United States, operating out of 19 locations that are more than 50 years old (six are over 100 years old). The deferred maintenance at those locations has resulted in the need to close libraries for long periods. In the last 18 months, we lost approximately 2,200 public service hours due to failing heating and air conditioning systems. There is significant need to address ADA and building code deficiencies. Library spaces need modernization to allow for library services required today, flexible spaces that meet each community's needs. We maximize capital funding resources to the best of our ability but there simply is not enough funding to address the need.

I fully support SB 501 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that could result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years to come.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gordon E. Krabbe
Chief Operating Officer

Scherr.2023-02-27 SB 502 Support Letter V3.pdf

Uploaded by: Jeffrey Scherr

Position: FAV

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am an Enoch Pratt Free Library Board member, and I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

The branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent, we help bridge our city's digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State University, our libraries provide customers access to social work and legal services. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms offer non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

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We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey H. Scherr

JHS:kts

Support Letter re SB502Schmoke EPFL-Capital Fundin

Uploaded by: Kurt Schmoke

Position: FAV



March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am an Enoch Pratt Free Library Board member, and I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

The branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent, we help bridge our city's digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State University, our libraries provide customers access to social work and legal services. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms offer non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

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We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kurt L. Schmoke
President

Enoch Pratt SB 502 Letter_Mark Caplan.pdf

Uploaded by: Mark Caplan

Position: FAV

Mark M. Caplan

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am an Enoch Pratt Free Library Board member. I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

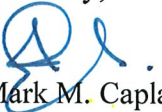
Libraries are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent for our customers, we help bridge that digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State, our customers can access social work and legal services in the community. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms allow non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

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We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark M. Caplan

Scully.Document_2023-02-26_101501.pdf

Uploaded by: Mary Ann Scully

Position: FAV

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am an Enoch Pratt Free Library Board member, and I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

The branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent, we help bridge our city's digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State University, our libraries provide customers access to social work and legal services. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms offer non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

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We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



SB 502 testimony -DeKuyper.pdf

Uploaded by: Mary DeKuyper

Position: FAV

MARY H. DeKUYPER
4422 UNDERWOOD ROAD
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21218-1150
CELL: 410-905-4475
EMAIL: maryhdekuyper@gmail.com

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Guzzone and members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

I am a long-term trustee of the Enoch Pratt Free Library Board, and I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much needed capital funding for library branches.

Libraries are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities to users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent for our customers, we help bridge that digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, The University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State University, our customers can access social work and legal services in the community. Our presence in the community allows learners of all ages access to information, and our meeting rooms allow non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

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I fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mary H. DeKuyper
Trustee

cc: members, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee.

SB502 Support Letter_M Farmer AMENDED.pdf

Uploaded by: Mychelle Farmer

Position: FAV

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am the Chair of the Boards for Enoch Pratt Free Library, and I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

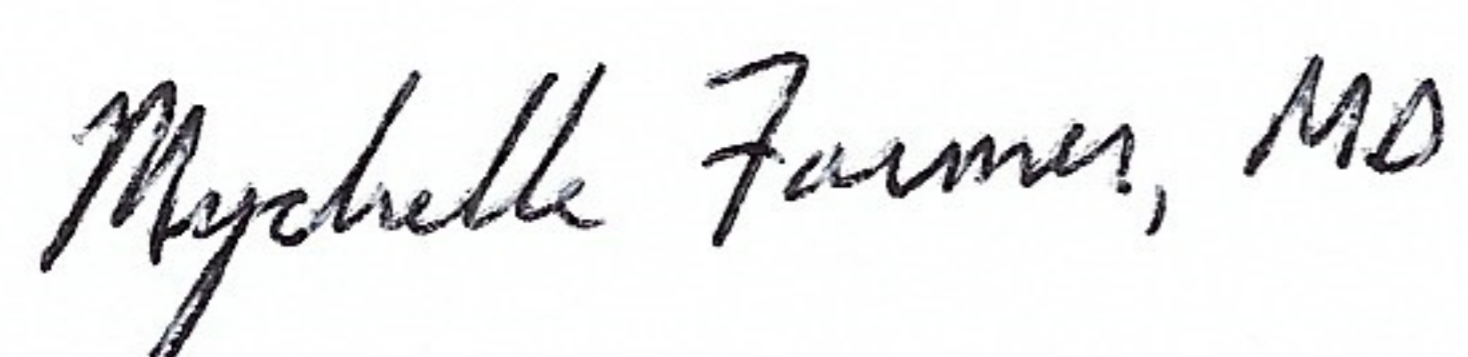
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We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mychelle Farmer, MD
Chair of the Boards, Enoch Pratt Free Library

2023.3.1. Dorman.PRATT SB 502-CAPITAL PROJECT FUN

Uploaded by: Nancy Dorman

Position: FAV

NANCY DORMAN

1329 PARK AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21217

March 1, 2023

Honorable Guy J. Guzzone
Chairman, Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee,

I am an Enoch Pratt Free Library Board member, and I strongly support **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for our library branches. This funding would have a huge, positive, and enduring impact on our city.

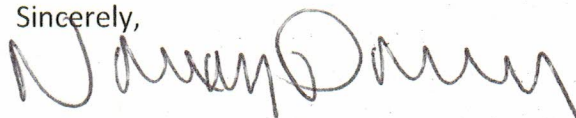
The branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library are vital community hubs, helping to stabilize neighborhoods and providing a world of opportunities for users. In Baltimore City, where access to the internet is limited or non-existent, we help bridge our city's digital divide. Through partnerships with Legal Aid, the University of Maryland School of Social Work, and Morgan State University, our libraries provide customers access to social work and legal services. Throughout the city, we provide safe, accessible and free educational resources and information for everyone. Our meeting rooms offer non-profit groups space to meet on essential topics for the community.

The Enoch Pratt Free Library operates one of the oldest library systems in the United States, with nineteen locations that are more than 50 years old (six branches are over 100 years old). Deferred maintenance adversely affects vital library services. In the last 18 months, we lost approximately 2,200 public service hours due to failing HVAC systems. The library needs to address ADA and building code deficiencies. Library spaces need modernization to provide library services as required today. Flexible spaces are recommended to meet community's changing needs.

We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



TELEPHONE 410.669.6268 E-MAIL NANCYDORMAN@COMCAST.NET

Hackerman.2023-03-01 SB 502 support letter_V3[44].

Uploaded by: Nancy Hackerman

Position: FAV

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Enoch Pratt Free Library (the Pratt), where I serve as Vice-Chair. Among other committees, I serve on the Legislative Committee. I write to express my strong support for **SB 502 Enoch Pratt Free Library – Capital Project Funding** which would provide much-needed capital funding for library branches.

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I support SB 502 fully and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hackerman

cc: members, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

SB502.NealNaff.pdf

Uploaded by: Neal Naff, M.D.

Position: FAV



The Sandra and Malcolm Berman
Brain & Spine Institute

Neal J. Naff, MD, FACS
Chief, Department of Neurosurgery
LifeBridge Health

March 1, 2023

Chairman Guy J. Guzzone
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

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We fully support SB 502 and urge the committee to issue a favorable report that would result in improved library facilities that will serve Baltimore City customers for years.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neal J. Naff".

Neal J. Naff, MD, FACS