



Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
SB846 – Circulation Records - Inspection, Use, or Disclosure Requirement Revision
February 22, 2023
Support

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Distinguished Committee Members:

SB846 updates the language and standards for protecting library patron circulation records in Statute 23-108 - Confidentiality of Library Records, ensuring individuals' privacy. It also outlines limited exceptions for allowing access to library records. Additionally this revision updates the language and builds in components of the Public Information Act contained in Title 4 of the General Provisions Article, specifically § 4-308 Library records.

This statute is relied upon by Library Directors and Library Boards for guidance to handle requests from government officials, law enforcement officials or the general public to inspect, use, or disclose a circulation record of a public library or any other item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual. The statute allows library staff to require that law enforcement or other interested parties obtain a subpoena in order to see these records.

I respectfully ask for your support of SB846.

Sincerely,

Debby Bennett
Executive Director

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