



**Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee**  
**SB 846 Libraries - Circulation Records - Inspection, Use, or**  
**Disclosure Requirement Revision**  
**February 21, 2023**  
**Support**

Dear Chairman Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) supports **SB 846 Libraries - Circulation Records - Inspection, Use, or Disclosure Requirement Revision** ensuring that the language in § 23-108 of the Annotated Code of Maryland effectively prohibits inspection, use, or disclosure of a circulation record of a public library or any other item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual as intended.

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. It is meant to ensure that library records remain confidential unless certain standards are met. As Acting Co-CEOs, we along with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System's Board of Library Trustees, use this 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.

Maryland's public libraries provide critical information access to residents of all ages. We respectfully ask that you support **SB 846 Libraries - Circulation Records - Inspection, Use, or Disclosure Requirement Revision** to ensure that Maryland's libraries have updated guidelines to protect the confidentiality of our circulation records.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Gannon  
Acting Co-CEO  
COO for Support Services

Nicholas A. Brown  
Acting Co-CEO  
COO for Communication and Outreach