



Education - State Library Resource Center - Funding  
Ways and Means Committee  
February 7, 2024  
SUPPORT

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Committee Members,

I am writing to strongly endorse **House Bill 489** introduced by Delegates D. Jones, Allen, Bagnall, Bartlett, Ebersole, Fair, Feldmark, and Lehman. I believe this bill is crucial for providing adequate funding for the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) during fiscal years 2024 through 2030.

As the Executive Director of Wicomico Public Library, I emphasize the significant impact SLRC has on our community, particularly in providing professional development training for library staff and facilitating inter-library loan services. HB 489 is vital to ensuring the continuation of these essential services.

SLRC's professional development programs equip library staff with the skills needed to deliver 21st-century services. This training is essential for adapting to evolving community needs and technological advancements, ensuring our libraries remain dynamic and responsive.

Inter-library loan services coordinated by SLRC play a crucial role in connecting citizens with valuable resources. In Wicomico County, where budgets for print collections are limited, SLRC's collaborative efforts facilitate seamless access to a wide range of materials, contributing to individual and community success.

I urge you and the esteemed members of the Ways and Means Committee to support the passage of HB 489, recognizing the pivotal role SLRC plays in strengthening Maryland libraries. Thank you for your commitment to promoting library services and educational resources throughout Maryland.

Sincerely,  
Seth Hershberger