



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Darcell Graham
Director

BILL: SB 378 Regional Resource Centers and County Libraries Funding **DATE:** February 9, 2026

SUBJECT: Regional Resource Centers and County **COMMITTEE:** Senate Budget & Taxation

TESTIMONY: Darcell Graham, Director **POSITION:** Support
Montgomery County Public Libraries

Dear Chair Senator Guzzone, Vice Chair Senator Rosapepe, and members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for SB378, which extends per capita funding increases for Maryland's county libraries and regional resource centers through FY2032.

Libraries are the heartbeat of Maryland communities—providing equitable access to information and connecting people to knowledge and opportunity. They deliver essential services for all ages, from early literacy programs for infants and preschoolers to adult resources such as health information, tax assistance, legal aid, and technology support. These funding adjustments are critical to sustaining the vital work libraries perform across our state.

Demand for library services continues to grow. Residents rely on libraries for connectivity, meeting spaces, and educational opportunities—whether for essential needs or lifelong learning. Meanwhile, operating costs for library services have nearly doubled over the past decade. Without SB378, funding will remain flat after FY2027, forcing cuts to programs, hours, and services.

At a time of federal disinvestment, it is vital for Maryland to reaffirm its commitment to equity and access for all families and communities.

On behalf of Montgomery County Public Libraries, I respectfully urge your YES vote on SB378 to keep Maryland libraries strong and sustainable for generations to come.

Darcell Graham
Director
Montgomery County Public Libraries