

**Testimony\_SB410\_SLRC\_ADLewis\_2162026.pdf**

Uploaded by: Andrea Lewis

Position: FAV



February 16, 2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Chair, Budget & Taxation Committee  
3 West Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: SB410 State Library Resource Center Funding Calculation**

Dear Chair Guzzone:

I am writing in support of SB410 to alter the funding calculation for the State Library Resource Center (SLRC). I have served in and worked with Maryland libraries in numerous capacities over the past three decades—currently as President of Citizens for Maryland Libraries—and have witnessed firsthand how critical state funding is to the success of our libraries and the communities they serve.

Maryland's libraries are a model of collaboration and resource sharing to maximize services to communities across the state. Nowhere is this more evident than the support provided by SLRC. There has been record-breaking engagement with library services with 267,704 reference questions and nearly 300,000 materials lent through interlibrary loan. And a little-known yet critical detail is that SLRC provides free internet connectivity to most public libraries and 25 municipalities, government agencies, and schools.

Access to electronic resources through the SLRC consortium has saved the state nearly \$4 million. This is critical to communities both large and small but is especially impactful in smaller communities with smaller budgets where they would not have the same level of access without SLRC. However, Enoch Pratt Free Library has had to supplement \$1.79 million from its general fund to protect essential services and still, cuts were necessary to Pratt's materials budget to balance the shortfall created by the funding calculation not keeping pace with the needs of the state.

I urge the committee to vote favorably for this modest alteration to the funding calculation for SLRC so that the excellent level of service provided to communities by our libraries can continue.

Sincerely,

Andrea D. Lewis  
President, Citizens for Maryland Libraries

**FAV SB0410 SLRC Funding SMRLA Teagle.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ashley Teagle

Position: FAV

February 16, 2026

Senator Guzzone, Chair  
Budget and Taxation Committee

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of **SB0410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding**. The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) is a vital part of Southern Maryland’s library ecosystem. The Southern Maryland Regional Library Association (SMRLA) provides a regional materials delivery service to Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary’s Counties. With the support of SLRC, who runs a statewide materials delivery service, our patrons can access library materials from all around the state at no additional cost to them. In FY 2025, Southern Maryland patrons borrowed over 10,000 items. Southern Maryland’s libraries did not have to purchase these items and could instead direct those dollars to other library initiatives.

Statewide materials delivery uses software to coordinate among all the libraries in Maryland. SMRLA is a grateful beneficiary of SLRC’s leadership as they transition to new updated software. SMRLA staff will receive access to the software and training on how to use it, again at no additional cost to SMRLA.

Finally, SMRLA staff regularly attend SLRC’s annual conferences for library workers. These conferences provide free training that keeps library workers up to date on trends and raise awareness of SLRC resources. If SLRC does not receive their funding increase, it would be impossible for SMRLA to carry out these services on our own.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Teagle, CEO

# **Calvert Library\_Support\_SB 410\_State Library Resou**

Uploaded by: Carrie Willson

Position: FAV



Inspiring possibility ✦ calvertlibrary.info

Carrie Willson, Executive Director • [carrie.willson@calvertlibrary.info](mailto:carrie.willson@calvertlibrary.info)  
850 Costley Way • Prince Frederick, MD 20678 • 410-535-0291 • 301-855-1862

<b>BILL:</b>	<b>SB410</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	February 18, 2026
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding	<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Budget and Taxation
<b>TESTIMONY FROM:</b>	Carrie Willson, Executive Director, Calvert Library	<b>POSITION:</b>	<b>Support</b>

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

I am writing in support of **SB 410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding**, which provides a per-capita increase to the State Library Resource Center for FY2028–FY2031. Additional funds are essential to sustain this cornerstone institution.

Calvert Library relies on the free high-speed internet provided by SLRC’s Sailor network as do 25 other municipalities, government agencies and schools. We benefit from SLRC’s subject-matter experts for assistance when our customers embark on in-depth research projects, specialized genealogy searches, African-American History research or need access to special collections like sheet music. SLRC librarians also provide high-quality staff training enabling our staff reach their required 90 CEUs every five years.

Calvert Library customers had 127,821 search sessions of premium databases in FY25. These resources are available because SLRC negotiates contracts on behalf of the state’s public and school library users. Without SLRC staff doing this work, school and public libraries in Maryland would have to spend an additional \$4 million dollars to access these same resources. Public school teachers rely SLRC databases for access to reliable information and primary source material for History Day projects and teaching information literacy.

SLRC operates a statewide inter-library loan service that exponentially amplifies our ability to get customers the titles they want without over-extending our limited collection budget. Calvert County residents borrowed 3,350 items from other libraries in FY25 saving Calvert Library approximately \$83,000.

SLRC yields an exceptional ROI for Marylanders. I respectfully urge a **favorable report on SB 410**.

Sincerely,

Carrie Willson, Executive Director, Calvert Library



**SB 410 AFSCME Council 3 Testimony\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Christian Gobel

Position: FAV



1410 Bush Street (Suite A)  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
Phone: 410-547-1515  
Email: [info@afscmemd.org](mailto:info@afscmemd.org)

Patrick Moran – President

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**SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
February 18, 2026**

**FAVORABLE**

AFSCME Maryland Council 3 supports Senate Bill 410. Senate Bill 410 alters the calculation of minimum funding for operating and capital expenses of the State Library Resource Center beginning in FY28. The Enoch Pratt Central Library is the designated State Library Resource Center (SLRC) under state law.<sup>1</sup> The SLRC’s mission is to “provide and expand access to specialized library materials and services that are necessary for coordinated, efficient, and economical library services in the state.”<sup>2</sup>

AFSCME Maryland Council 3 represents approximately 55,000 public service workers across varying levels of government including city, county, state, and higher education. AFSCME members are on the frontlines every day delivering critical public services our communities depend on. AFSCME is proud to represent library workers across Maryland through AFSCME Local 6359, which represents public library workers in Anne Arundel County, Frederick County, Howard County, and the Enoch Pratt library system.

The SLRC occupies a critical role in Maryland’s public library system. The SLRC is responsible for maintaining a collection of various academic resources for other libraries and their customers, providing trainings to library workers throughout Maryland, and offering other services such as broadband internet access to other public institutions, research database subscriptions to all Maryland public libraries, and presenting other public programming. In short, the SLRC plays an essential role in Maryland’s public library system and is dependent upon public funding to provide these key community resources.

AFSCME Maryland Council 3 supports enhanced public investment in our public services, institutions, and employees to ensure the delivery of quality public services to all Marylanders. Senate Bill 410 achieves this objective.

**We urge the committee to issue a favorable report of SB 410.**

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<sup>1</sup> MD Code, Education, § 23-201(a).

<sup>2</sup> MD Code, Education, § 23-201(b).

# Capital Budget support SenateTCFL.pdf

Uploaded by: Dana Newman

Position: FAV



Dana Newman  
Director

100 West Dover Street  
Easton, MD 21601

Telephone  
410-822-1626  
Fax  
410-820-8217

**BILL: SB 410 SUBJECT: Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding**

**SUBMITTED BY: Dana Newman, Talbot County Free Library**

**DATE: February 16, 2026**

**COMMITTEE: Senate Budget & Taxation Subcommittee**

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

I am writing in support of SB 410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding, which would resume the annual increases to the State Library Resource Center (SLRC)'s per capita funding through FY 2032. This funding is vital to supporting the centralized coordination of a wide range of services that allow for efficient and economical library services throughout the State of Maryland.

As a library in a rural county, Talbot benefits immensely from the services provided by the State Library Resource Center. This includes our online resources, including Gale's research databases, Mango Languages, and genealogical and historical collections. Many individuals looking for employment and small businesses use these online resources for resume help, marketing assistance, and much more.

Centralized purchasing and management save the state nearly \$4 million compared to the costs that each library and school would face in attempting to provide them individually. Funding for the Resource Center also provides the SAILOR network, which provided over 65,000 high speed Internet access sessions for our patrons last year. The Resource Center's physical collection of more than 3 million items, plus their coordination of the statewide interlibrary loan service covering more than 10 million items, gives our patrons access to a much wider range of resources than our 130,000-item local collection. The Resource Center also provides professional development training throughout the year, both in-person and virtually, that allows us to keep our staff up to date on new and emerging services and technology. The Resource Center's coordinated services fulfill critical demand for services for job seekers, early literacy, afterschool safe places, and free Internet and computer access.

Library services are vital to successful schools and strong communities. We respectfully ask that you provide funding at a level that will support equity and access in our communities. Thank you for your consideration. The Talbot County Free Library supports the passage of this budget item.

Respectfully,

Dana Newman  
Director

**Senate SB410\_Ed\_Goyda\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ed Goyda

Position: FAV



**SOMERSET**  
COUNTY LIBRARY  
*The Heart of the Community*

**BILL: SB 410**

**DATE: February 16, 2026**

**SUBJECT: Public Libraries – State  
Library Resource Center – Funding**

**COMMITTEE: Senate Budget & Taxation  
Subcommittee**

**SUBMITTED BY: Ed Goyda, Director,  
Somerset County Library**

**POSITION: Support**

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

I am writing in support of **SB 410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding**, which would resume the annual increases to the State Library Resource Center (SLRC)'s per capita funding through FY 2032. This funding is vital to supporting the centralized coordination of a wide range of services that allow for efficient and economical library services throughout the State of Maryland.

As a rural library in one of Maryland's smallest counties, Somerset benefits immensely from the services provided by the State Library Resource Center.

This includes the majority of our online resources, including Gale's research databases, Mango Languages, and HeritageQuest's genealogical and historical collections. The State Library Resource Center also hosts, through Digital Maryland, our digital local history collections including our archive of news clippings, brochures, and other ephemera and our Crisfield National Hard Crab Derby Brochure collection. Centralized purchasing and management save the state nearly \$4 million compared to the costs that each library and school would face in attempting to provide them individually.

Funding for the Resource Center also provides the SAILOR network, providing high speed Internet access for over 40,000 Somerset patrons each year.

The Resource Center's physical collection of more than 3 million items, plus their coordination of the statewide interlibrary loan service covering more than 10 million items, gives our patrons access to a much wider range of resources than our 50,000 item local collection.

The Resource Center also provides professional development trainings through the year, both in-person and virtually, that allow us to keep our staff up-to-date on new and emerging services and technology, such as the upcoming Public Services Conference on February 25, where Somerset will have most of our staff in attendance to learn about core services skills, increasing accessibility, and community building.

The Resource Center's coordinated services fulfill critical demand for services for job seekers, early literacy, afterschool safe places, and free Internet and computer access. Library services are vital to successful schools and strong communities. We respectfully ask that you provide funding at a level that will support equity and access in our communities. Thank you for your consideration.

**The Somerset County Library supports the passage of this budget item.**

Sincerely,

Ed Goyda  
Director, Somerset County Library

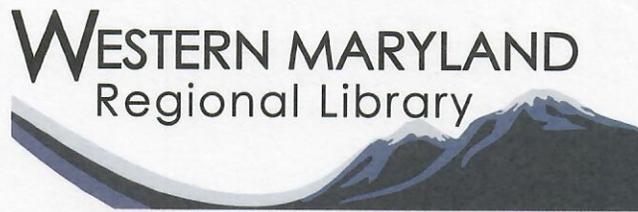
*Crisfield • Princess Anne • Ewell*

11767 Beechwood Street, Princess Anne, MD 21853  
410-651-0852  
somelibrary.org

**SB410\_SLRC funding\_FY27.pdf**

Uploaded by: Elizabeth Hulett

Position: FAV



**Budget and Taxation Committee**  
**SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding**  
**February 18, 2026**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Committee members:

I am writing in **Support of SB410 Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding**

The Western Maryland Regional Library (WMRL) strongly supports **SB410 Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding** which would alter the calculation of funding for the State Library Resource Center. SLRC serves Maryland’s public, academic, school, and special libraries. It provides statewide resources and services for Maryland libraries and their customers. In Western Maryland, SLRC plays an essential role in cultivating public libraries and the communities they support. These are just a few of the SLRC services that positively impact our region.

Research databases: SLRC provides a collection of research databases to our three public library systems and to the public school system. All residents have access to a core collection of databases for online language learning, family history research, job and career resources, general research support, test preparation, and more.

Statewide interlibrary loan: The Marina system, run by SLRC, allows Maryland public library cardholders to request materials not owned by their local public library system from another Maryland public library system. This highly popular sharing agreement gives our residents access to materials they would not otherwise be able to borrow. We have seen a steady growth in the use of this service over the past several fiscal years.

Professional Development: SLRC provides a full range of professional development opportunities for Maryland librarians, including online courses, in-person training, and conferences. This training helps librarians navigate issues such as virtual library services, customer service, and collection management.

Delivery of Materials: SLRC bears the full cost of delivering all of WMRL’s Interlibrary loan materials around the state. This has a major positive impact on WMRL’s budget and the efficiency of the delivery system. As the smallest of the Regional libraries, WMRL relies heavily on the services SLRC provides.

Maryland public libraries are among the strongest, if not the strongest system of public libraries in the nation. This is due in large part to the continued support of the Maryland General Assembly and its support of The State Library Resource Center for which I am very grateful. I respectfully ask for your support of SB410.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Hulett*

Elizabeth Hulett

Director

Western Maryland Regional Library

# **SB410 Support.pdf**

Uploaded by: James Kelly

Position: FAV



FREDERICK  
COUNTY  
**PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES**

**BILL: SB410**

**DATE: February 16, 2026**

**SUBJECT: Public Libraries –  
State Library Resource Center  
– Funding**

**COMMITTEE: Senate Budget  
and Taxation Committee**

**SUBMITTED BY: James Kelly,  
Director, Frederick County  
Public Libraries**

**POSITION: Support**

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

Frederick County Public Libraries (FCPL) supports **SB410** which provides critical funding to the State Library Resource Center (SLRC).

SLRC supports communities across Maryland in many ways. SLRC provides databases and other electronic resources that Frederick County students rely on. SLRC oversees and manages the statewide Interlibrary Loan program, giving Marylanders in every corner of the state seamless access to millions of titles. SLRC provides free continuing education opportunities for members of our team who, as librarians and library associates, must maintain state certification. SLRC provides broadband internet access to most public libraries and, in addition, to 25 municipalities, government agencies, and schools.

In each of these examples and countless others, SLRC ensures equitable access to information for all Marylanders, saving state and local dollars by eliminating duplication of services.

**Director**  
James Kelly

Administrative Offices  
110 East Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701  
P 301.600.1613 F 301.600.3789 [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)



FREDERICK  
COUNTY  
**PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES**

SB410 ensures per capita support of the State Library through fiscal year 2032. It will help SLRC keep up with the general rate of inflation and the continually rising costs of e-books, print books, databases, and print subscriptions at a time when community need across Maryland is growing.

**Frederick County Public Libraries supports the passage of this budget item.**

Sincerely,

James Kelly  
Director  
Frederick County Public Libraries

**Director**  
James Kelly

**Administrative Offices**  
110 East Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701  
P 301.600.1613 F 301.600.3789 [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)

# **SB410 Public Libraries-State Library Resource Cent**

Uploaded by: Janet Salazar

Position: FAV



**Centreville Branch:** 121 S. Commerce St., Centreville MD 21617  
410.758.0980

**Kent Island Branch:** 200 Library Circle, Stevensville, MD 21666  
410.643.8161

**BILL:** SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center Funding **DATE:** February 18, 2026

**SUBJECT:** State Library Resource Center Funding **COMMITTEE:** Budget and Taxation

**TESTIMONY FROM:** Janet Salazar, Director **POSTION:**Support

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resources Center – Funding.

The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) provides valuable resources for the residents of Queen Anne's County. The Sailor Database Consortium provides access to educational databases that our library system could not afford if we had to pay for them out of our budget. In FY 25, these databases were accessed 3,776 times by our library customers. These databases provide a variety of information: genealogical research, learning a new language, full text articles from major academic journals, resources for elementary, middle, and high school research, and access to general interest periodicals and newspapers from the U.S. and around the world. If every library in the state had to purchase these databases individually, it would cost over \$4 million, but because SLRC can purchase them at a consortium rate, the combined total is only \$600,000. That is a significant savings and our library users in Queen Anne's County appreciate having them available.

SLRC runs our statewide interlibrary loan network, Marina. This service is invaluable to the smaller, rural systems in the state, such as ours. Because we have smaller libraries, with less available space for books and other materials, Marina expands our collection by allowing our library users to borrow books from any library in the State of Maryland as well as from outside our state. In FY 25, Queen Anne's County Library users borrowed 2,435 items through the Marina network.

SLRC also provides internet access to our library system. In FY 25, our library internet had 59,398 sessions. Many residents don't have access to or can't afford internet access in their homes. The service provided by SLRC allows our library system to help bridge the digital divide in our county.

The State Library Resource Center has been flat funded for several years. With increasing costs for providing services, flat funding is actually a decrease in the budget for SLRC. Queen Anne's County Library supports the passage of SB410. I respectfully ask for your support of this budget item, which will allow SLRC to continue to support Maryland public libraries and specifically the Queen Anne's County Library and our residents. By providing the proposed funding for SLRC, which is flat funded for FY 27 at \$2.07 per each state resident, and increasing over the next five fiscal years (FY28 - \$2.18, FY29 - \$2.28, FY30 - \$2.39, FY31 - \$2.51, FY32 and beyond - \$2.64) our public libraries will continue to offer access to the materials, services, and resources our community needs and wants and to grow our services as our community's needs change.

Thank you for your consideration,

Janet Salazar  
Director

# **SB 410 Support Worcester County Library.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jennifer Ranck

Position: FAV



**BILL: SB 410**

**DATE:** February 16, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Public Libraries – State  
Library Resource Center – Funding

**COMMITTEE:** Senate Budget and Taxation

**SUBMITTED BY:** Jennifer Ranck, Director,  
Worcester County Library

**POSITION:** Support

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

I write in support of SB 410 - Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding. The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) provides essential services to public, academic, and school libraries across Maryland.

SLRC enables systems like Worcester County Library to stretch our limited local dollars while expanding access to high-quality databases, research materials, and broadband services. Through centralized purchasing, SLRC has saved the state nearly \$4 million. Managing these services on behalf of the libraries allows us to put that funding back into serving our communities through early literacy programs, job readiness initiatives, and lifelong learning opportunities.

In addition, SLRC provides professional development through online courses, in-person training, webinars, and conferences, helping library staff continue to meet the evolving needs of the patrons we serve.

**I respectfully request that you support the passage of this budget item.**

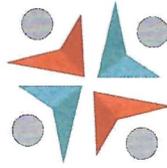
Sincerely,

Jennifer Ranck  
Director, Worcester County Library

**SB410\_Support\_WashingtonCountyFreeLibrary.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jenny Bakos

Position: FAV



WASHINGTON COUNTY  
FREE LIBRARY

*Where People & Possibilities Meet*

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chairman  
Budget and Taxation Committee

Dear Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Committee Members,

The Washington County Free Library strongly supports **SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding** which would continue the periodic increases to the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) per capita funding formula in FY27 through FY32.

The Enoch Pratt Free Library's Central Library was designated to be the State Library Resource Center in 1971 in an effort to provide and expand access to specialized library materials and services that are necessary for coordinated, efficient, and economical library services in Maryland. Unlike most states, Maryland does not have a State Library making access to SLRC services critical to Maryland libraries and citizens across the state.

Washington County specifically benefits from an appropriately funded state library due to its reliance on the SAILOR network, which provides services to Washington County and the City of Hagerstown. Without this connection, prices for the essential internet services our communities need to function would increase, causing financial hardship for the localities, and in turn, citizens.

SLRC also provides many other critical services, including housing the State's "last copy" collection. These materials allow Marylanders access to rare and historic texts relevant to Maryland history. SLRC coordinates library services around the state that are filling a critical demand for services by job seekers, small business owners, early literacy, after-school safe places, and free internet and computer access.

Library services are vital to successful schools, strong communities and adult education and we encourage passage of this important legislation to assure their continuation. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jenny L. Bakos  
Executive Director  
Washington County Free Library

**SB410 - SLRC funding\_letter of support\_CaroCoPubLi**

Uploaded by: Jonah Owens

Position: FAV



**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
SB410 State Library Resource Center Funding  
February 16, 2026  
Support**

Dear Chairman Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

This letter is in support of SB410 for altering the calculation of funding for the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) for FY2028 and each year thereafter.

Unlike most states, Maryland does not have a State Library, making access to SLRC services critical to Maryland libraries and citizens across the state. As you know, Caroline County is one of the poorer counties in Maryland. The citizens of Caroline County greatly benefit from the services SLRC provides, including the loan of books and other materials, access to specialized databases and public programs, all beyond what Caroline County Public Library can provide. Caroline County Public Library staff benefit from the professional development training SLRC staff provide. SLRC's SAILOR Internet Network provides broadband internet access to public libraries around the state.

SLRC coordinates equitable library services around the state that are filling a critical demand for services by job seekers, small business owners, early literacy, after-school safe places, and free internet and computer access. Library services are vital to successful schools, strong communities and adult education.

I respectfully ask for your support of SB410 to help SLRC continue its important work throughout the State.

Sincerely,

Jonah Owens  
Executive Director

info@carolib.org • www.carolib.org

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Central Library  
100 Market Street  
Denton, Maryland 21629  
p 410.479.1343 f 410.479.1443

Federalsburg Branch  
123 Morris Avenue  
Federalsburg, Maryland 21632  
p 410.754.8397 f 410.754.3058

North County Branch  
101 Cedar Lane • P.O. Box 336  
Greensboro, Maryland 21639  
p 410.482.2173 f 410.482.2634

**SB0410.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kathleen Thompson

Position: FAV

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB0410, which updates and stabilizes funding for the State Library Resource Center, ensuring that public libraries across Maryland have the resources they need to serve our communities effectively.

The proposed per-resident funding of \$2.17 for FY 2028 represents approximately \$13.5 million annually, a modest portion of the state budget. This approach is predictable, sustainable, and scales naturally with population growth, allowing libraries to plan ahead while continuing to provide vital services.

Libraries are essential public institutions that provide access to books, digital materials, educational programs, technology, and community resources for all Maryland residents. SB0410 ensures that these services remain available, equitable, and high-quality across urban and rural areas alike. By maintaining stable funding for the State Library Resource Center, this bill supports literacy, lifelong learning, and community engagement statewide.

I strongly urge the committee to vote in favor of SB0410 and continue Maryland's commitment to robust, sustainable support for our public libraries.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Thompson

# **Signed - Senate Bill 410 Feb 2026.pdf**

Uploaded by: Liz Sundermann

Position: FAV



**MARYLAND STATE  
LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER  
ENOCH PRATT *free* LIBRARY**

**BILL:** Senate Bill 410                      **DATE:** February 16, 2026  
**TITLE:** Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding      **COMMITTEE:** Budget and Taxation  
**TESTIMONY FROM:** Chad Helton, President and CEO, Enoch Pratt Free Library & State Library Resource Center      **POSITION:** Support

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and members of the committee,

I am writing in support of SB 410 - State Library Resource – Funding.

This bill will minimally increase funding for the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) from FY 2028 - FY 2032. These small funding increases will allow SLRC to help libraries and individuals across the state access the services and resources they need.

Maryland is unique in that we don't have an independent State Library. Instead, the Central Library of the Enoch Pratt Free Library fills that role, as it has done since the 1970s. By serving in this capacity, SLRC's resources allow county and regional library systems to utilize their limited budgets strategically, to best serve their unique communities. SLRC's contributions essentially act as a multiplier for what Maryland libraries can provide the residents of our state. SLRC saves both the state and local municipalities money, and provides services they would otherwise not be able to provide.

The State Library Resource Center offers access to high-quality educational databases and research materials that help citizens statewide via their local library systems. The homework help resources provided through SLRC level the playing field for residents who don't have access to private tutors or the ability to travel to get information for assignments. In addition to providing virtual instruction, SLRC staff travel the state to help educate students participating in National History Day, teach adults how to do genealogical research, and help aspiring entrepreneurs how to find grants to help launch their small businesses. In times of both restricted budgets and dubious access to factual information, the books, databases, and other sources of information, the resources and services that SLRC provides Maryland residents and libraries is essential. In FY 2025 students in K-12 schools used our databases 1.5 million times,

residents contacted us with reference questions 267,704 times, and people accessed our government documents collection over 9,000 times.

Most notably, SLRC provides a high speed internet network, IT infrastructure, and accessibility to many statewide public libraries, municipal governments, and educational institutions at no charge.

SLRC has been flat funded for FY 2026 and FY 2027, and we have already been making difficult cuts where we can. In FY 2025 we fully utilized the \$12,760,847 in the state allocation and supplemented costs with \$1,790,000 from the Enoch Pratt Free Library's general fund in order to maintain essential services. The City of Baltimore and the Enoch Pratt Free Library cannot maintain this level of support. While we have not yet had to cut interlibrary loan services, we have had to cut back the staffed hours of some of our public service departments. It pains us to turn people away, but a few of our departments have become appointment-only out of necessity. In addition, the cost of electronic resources continues to skyrocket, as does building maintenance and other major expenses.

Please vote in favor of the small incremental increases that will allow us to continue to serve Maryland residents and libraries with the level of service they deserve. A very small increase to us will truly have an exceptional impact on lives throughout our state.

Very sincerely,



Chad Helton,  
CEO & President  
Enoch Pratt Free Library & State Library Resource Center  
chelton@prattlibrary.org

**SB 410 Letter of Support (2\_18\_2026) (SLRC).pdf**

Uploaded by: Lloyd Jansen

Position: FAV

**Budget and Taxation Committee****SB 515 Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding****February 18, 2026**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Committee Members,

I am writing to ask for your favorable support of **SB 410 Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding**. This bill provides necessary funding for the State Library Resource Center for FY2027-FY2032.

The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) provides a wealth of invaluable services to schools and public libraries across the state, such as the SAILOR Database Consortium, which provides access to educational databases at no cost to those institutions. These databases include Gale Educational Databases, the Heritage Quest genealogy database, and Mango Languages. Students in K-12 schools used SLRC databases 1.5 million times in FY25. Since SLRC purchases these databases at a consortium rate, the databases that SLRC paid \$600,000 for in FY25 would have cost individual schools and libraries \$4.6M.

Through its SAILOR network, SLRC provides internet connection services utilizing high speed fiber to 24 municipalities throughout the state at no cost to the recipients, including local governments and EMS services.

The Maryland Interlibrary Loan Network (MILO), administered by SLRC, provides pickup, delivery, and coordination of borrowing throughout the state. Anyone in the state with a library card to any public library can request books from any other library, including SLRC. In FY25 nearly 300,000 items were borrowed through the interlibrary loan system, leveling the playing field for all residents to access the collections of libraries across the state.

SLRC staff answered 267,704 reference questions for Marylanders in FY25, and its Government Documents were accessed over 9,000 times. Unfortunately, SLRC has had to cut their print materials budget, and some of their departments are now available by appointment only due to funding cuts. More cuts that will impact statewide services will be made without the requested funding increases.

With a collection of over 3 million physical items, including many rare and historic items specifically relevant to Maryland, SLRC is able to provide access to materials across the state that no other library can afford to purchase and maintain. This includes large collections of primary source materials like entire runs of most Maryland newspapers, government documents and genealogy resources, and a collection related to African-American history, culture and lives.

Costs for these services continue to rise, so it is vital that SLRC has the resources to continue their mission of serving all Maryland residents, students, and library professionals. Current SLRC funding is approx. \$2.75M/year or \$2.07 per state resident. The request keeps that amount the same in FY27 with slight increases each year, topping out at \$2.64 per state resident in FY32. In light of the immense scope and importance of the services provided by SLRC, I'm sure you'll find that this funding gives tremendous "bang for the buck". On behalf of the Charles County Public Library I ask that you favorably recommend SB 410 for passage.

KennethWayne Thompson, Executive Director  
Charles County Public Library

# **SB410 - Public Libraries - State Library Resource**

Uploaded by: Lori Milach

Position: FAV



Date: February 16, 2026

Bill: SB 410  
Committee: Senate Budget & Taxation  
Subject: State Library Resource Center – Funding  
Position: Support  
Submitted by: Lori Milach, Eastern Shore Regional Library CEO

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of SB 410 as the libraries on the Eastern Shore of Maryland would be significantly affected by any reduction in funding to the State Library Resource Center. The public libraries across the Eastern Shore operate in predominantly rural communities where financial resources are already constrained. When state funding is reduced or fails to keep pace with need, these local systems are forced to scale back essential services.

In such circumstances, regional systems like ESRL inevitably experience indirect fiscal pressure as we are often called upon to offset service reductions by expanding regional support, absorbing additional costs, or stretching existing resources beyond sustainable levels. This may require reallocating funds from other critical regional initiatives, delaying technology upgrades, limiting professional development, or reducing cooperative services that benefit all member libraries. Over time, this redistribution weakens the overall library infrastructure serving our rural communities.

Public libraries are foundational community institutions. On the Eastern Shore, they serve as primary access points for broadband and technology, workforce development assistance, early literacy programs, small business resources, and safe community spaces. In many areas, the local library is the only free public access point for internet connectivity and educational support.

Senate Bill 410 represents a proactive step toward stabilizing funding and protecting rural library systems from service erosion. For rural communities already facing economic and geographic challenges, predictable and sufficient library funding is essential to maintaining equity of access across the state.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 410.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Milach, DPA  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eastern Shore Regional Library

# **SB 410-State Library Resource Center-Support (2026**

Uploaded by: Megan Sutherland

Position: FAV



**Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding**  
**Budget and Taxation**  
**February 18, 2026**  
**SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Committee Members,

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) **strongly supports SB 410 Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding**, which would ensure modest, periodic increases to the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) per capita funding formula starting in fiscal year 2028.

The Enoch Pratt Free Library's Central Library was designated the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) in 1971 to provide and expand access to specialized library materials and services necessary for coordinated, efficient, and economical library services in Maryland. The State Library Resource Center's services are critical to Maryland libraries and residents statewide.

Prince George's County Memorial Library System and Prince Georgians benefit immensely from the State Library Resource Center services. Last year, Prince Georgians received 25,342 items via the statewide interlibrary loan program administered by SLRC. Statewide, nearly 300,000 materials were shared via interlibrary loan. Our customers, including all Prince George's County Public School students, have access to educational databases such as Gale, HeritageQuest, and Mango Languages, provided at no cost to PGCMLS. K-12 students statewide accessed these databases 1.5 million times last year. Libraries, schools, 25 municipalities, government agencies, and EMS throughout the state benefit from the high-speed internet connection service provided at no cost to recipients through the State Library Resource Center.

However, the services and resources residents statewide rely on are at risk. SLRC has cut its print budget and restricted key services due to funding shortages. The Enoch Pratt Free Library has backfilled \$1.79 million from its own general fund to keep statewide services intact, and that cannot continue. We ask that you **favorably recommend SB 410** for passage to ensure adequate funding for these statewide library services and resources.

Sincerely,

Mark Winston, Ph. D.  
CEO

**SB0410-BT-FAV .pdf**

Uploaded by: Nina Themelis

Position: FAV



BRANDON M. SCOTT  
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations  
88 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

**SB 0410**

February 18, 2026

**TO:** Members of the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee  
**FROM:** Nina Themelis, Director of the Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
**RE:** SB 0410 -Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding

**POSITION: FAVORABLE**

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 410.

SB 410 would provide a slight increase in funding for the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) for FY2028-FY2032. This increase would allow SLRC to continue to help libraries across the state to offer services and resources that the community needs.

Maryland has a unique model in that we do not have an independent state library. While each jurisdiction has its own local library system, the Enoch Pratt Free Library's Central branch serves as the SLRC for Maryland. The ability to share materials and resources statewide is a critical component of ensuring that each resident across the state can have equal access to knowledge and information regardless of whether their local library system has that material on file.

Through its role as the SLRC, in 2025 alone, students from kindergarten through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade used the Enoch Pratt's online databases 1.5 million times, residents contacted library staff for references 267,704 times and people accessed government documents available via the library over 9,000 times.

While there is a mandatory level of funding provided for SLRC services, that funding has not been sufficient over time due to costs outpacing the mandated levels. Last fiscal year, the Enoch Pratt Free Library had to transfer nearly \$1.8 million from its general fund to maintain some of these essential services. The BCA and Enoch Pratt Free Library are proud to continue to provide services to residents of Baltimore City and statewide, however, the BCA has concerns about the long-term fiscal health of the SLRC without adjusting funding levels.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully request a **favorable** report on SB 410.

# **SB410 Public Libraries-State Library Resource Cent**

Uploaded by: Peter Hobby

Position: FAV

Peter Hobby  
369 Hemsley Dr  
Queenstown, MD 21658

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**BILL:** SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center Funding

**DATE:** February 18, 2026

**SUBJECT:** State Library Resource Center Funding

**COMMITTEE:** Budget and Taxation

**TESTIMONY FROM:** Peter Hobby, Board of Trustees, Queen Anne’s County Library

**POSTION:** Support

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of SB410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resources Center – Funding.

The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) provides valuable resources for the residents of Queen Anne’s County. The Sailor Database Consortium provides access to educational databases that our library system could not afford if we had to pay for them out of our budget. In FY 25, these databases were accessed 3,776 times by our library customers. These databases provide a variety of information: genealogical research, learning a new language, full text articles from major academic journals, resources for elementary, middle, and high school research, and access to general interest periodicals and newspapers from the U.S. and around the world. If every library in the state had to purchase these databases individually, it would cost over \$4 million, but because SLRC can purchase them at a consortium rate, the combined total is only \$600,000. That is a significant savings and our library users in Queen Anne’s County appreciate having them available.

SLRC runs our statewide interlibrary loan network, Marina. This service is invaluable to the smaller, rural systems in the state, such as ours. Because we have smaller libraries, with less available space for books and other materials, Marina expands our collection by allowing our library users to borrow books from any library in the State of Maryland as well as from outside our state. In FY 25, Queen Anne’s County Library users borrowed 2,435 items through the Marina network.

SLRC also provides internet access to our library system. In FY 25, our library internet had 59,398 sessions. Many residents don’t have access to or can’t afford internet access in their homes. The service provided by SLRC allows our library system to help bridge the digital divide in our county.

The State Library Resource Center has been flat funded for several years. With increasing costs for providing services, flat funding is actually a decrease in the budget for SLRC. As a private citizen and member of the Queen Anne’s County Library Board of Trustees, I respectfully ask for your support of this budget item in SB410. The bill will allow SLRC to continue supporting Maryland public libraries, in particular, the Queen Anne’s County Library and our residents. By providing the proposed funding for SLRC, which is flat funded for FY 27 at \$2.07 per each state resident, and proposed to increase over the next five fiscal years (FY28 - \$2.18, FY29 - \$2.28, FY30 - \$2.39, FY31 - \$2.51, FY32 and beyond - \$2.64), our public libraries will continue to offer access to the materials, services, and resources our community needs and wants to grow and flourish.

Thank you for your consideration,

Peter Hobby  
QAACL Board of Trustees

# **CCPL\_Testimony\_SB0410\_2.16.26\_State Library Resour**

Uploaded by: Rachel Wright

Position: FAV

<b>BILL:</b>	<b>SB 410</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	February 16, 2026
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Public Libraries-State Library Resource Center-Funding	<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Budget and Taxation
<b>TESTIMONY FROM:</b>	Rachel Wright, Executive Director, Cecil County Public Library	<b>POSITION:</b>	<b>Support</b>

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe, and Committee Members:

Cecil County Public Library (CCPL) fully supports **SB 410 Public Libraries-State Library Resource Center-Funding**.

Fully funding the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) is critical to the success of every Marylander who relies on their public, school, and/or academic libraries for access to programs, resources, materials, and information provided by SLRC.

SLRC's coordination of the inter-county materials lending service is especially important for smaller, rural systems who are limited in the breadth and depth of materials they are able to offer their residents. This is especially true in counties where the budget allocation from their individual counties do not fully cover the collection budget costs required to meet the needs of the community. Additionally, SLRC's statewide SAILOR service directly addresses the digital divide by ensuring all municipalities receive access to high-speed broadband Internet.

As community need increases, so to do the costs of providing these essential services. Additional funding is needed; therefore, to ensure SLRC continues to effectively serve library systems across the state. The current funding level of \$2.07/state resident is not currently and will not in the future be sufficient; we respectfully ask that you support per capita increases as requested for years FY28-FY32 and beyond.

The impact of SLRC on every library system and resident of the state of MD cannot be overstated. Whether through the nearly 300,000 items borrowed using the Statewide Interlibrary Loan Network, the 1.5 million instances of students in K-12 schools using SLRC databases, or the 380,000 in-person visits to SLRC's physical location, the success of public, school, and academic libraries are dependent upon the success of SLRC. And, the success of SLRC is dependent upon it being fully funded, as prescribed in SB 410.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Maryland libraries and communities.

Truly,



Rachel Wright  
Executive Director, Cecil County Public Library  
485 Mauldin Avenue  
North East, MD 21901

**SB410 - King - sponsor testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Senator Nancy King

Position: FAV

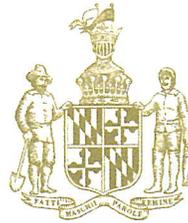
NANCY J. KING  
*Legislative District 39*  
Montgomery County

MAJORITY LEADER

Budget and Taxation Committee

*Chair*

Education, Business, and  
Administration Subcommittee



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 123  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3686  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3686  
Nancy.King@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Senate Bill 410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center - Funding**

February 18, 2026

Mister Chairman and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) is the State Library for Maryland and works with libraries across the state, to provide cooperative and cost-effective resources and services for Maryland libraries and their customers.

For fiscal years 2025 through 2027 the SLRC is funded at a rate of \$2.07 per state resident.

This legislation will increase the funding as follows:

FY 2028 - \$2.17 per state resident

FY 2029 - \$2.28 per state resident

FY 2030 - \$2.39 per state resident

FY 2031 - \$2.51 per state resident

FY2032 - and each fiscal year thereafter - \$2.64 per state resident

These increases will ensure that our State Library has the resources necessary to adequately support our libraries and provide the services that our residents need and deserve.

I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 410.

**HB0410 (FAV).pdf**

Uploaded by: Seth Hershberger

Position: FAV



February 16, 2026

**RE: Senate Bill 410 – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding**  
**Position: Favorable**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee:

I write in support of Senate Bill 410 and respectfully request a favorable report.

In Wicomico County, the State Library Resource Center makes a real difference. It allows us to provide services and resources that would otherwise be out of reach for our residents.

Through SLRC's statewide consortium, Maryland saves nearly \$4 million on electronic resources that would otherwise cost libraries and schools \$4.6 million to purchase individually. For a county library like ours, that means access to high-quality databases and research tools we could not afford on our own.

In FY2025 alone, SLRC answered 267,704 reference questions, lent nearly 300,000 items statewide through interlibrary loan, and supported 1.5 million student database uses. Our residents benefit directly from that scale. When a Wicomico patron needs specialized materials, SLRC delivers. When a student needs reliable research tools, SLRC provides them.

But the system is under strain. SLRC has cut its print budget and restricted key services due to funding shortages. The Enoch Pratt Free Library has backfilled \$1.79 million from its own general fund to keep statewide services intact, and that cannot continue.

Senate Bill 410 offers a disciplined, modest adjustment beginning in FY2028. It moves the per capita rate from \$2.07 to \$2.17, roughly a 5 percent increase. This protects a statewide system that allows counties like Wicomico to deliver quality service.

This bill strengthens Maryland's library infrastructure. It protects equity across counties. It safeguards access for our residents.

For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 410.

Sincerely,

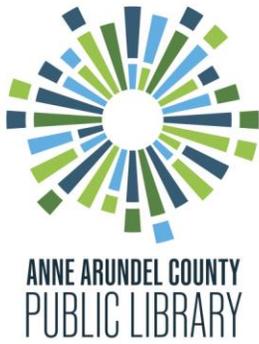
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seth Hershberger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Seth Hershberger, Director  
Wicomico Public Library

# **SB 410 - State Library Resource Center Funding, Te**

Uploaded by: Skip Auld

Position: FAV



February 16, 2026

RE: **Senate Bill 410** – Public Libraries – State Library Resource Center – Funding

Position: **Favorable**

Dear Chair Guy Guzzone, Vice Chair Paul Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of Senate Bill 410 and respectfully request a favorable report.

The State Library Resource Center (SLRC) is an essential partner for county library systems, including the Anne Arundel County Public Library, enabling local libraries to maximize limited resources while expanding equitable access for residents statewide.

Anne Arundel County is often viewed as suburban, but the southern half of the county is distinctly rural, with communities that face challenges similar to those in Western Maryland, Southern Maryland, and the Eastern Shore. For these areas—where residents may have fewer nearby institutions and limited local collections, just as in our county, SLRC plays a critical role in ensuring access to high-quality library resources regardless of geography.

Anne Arundel County Public Library staff directly benefit from SLRC-provided continuing education and professional development. Librarians and other library workers from our system regularly participate in SLRC training, strengthening frontline services and ensuring that residents in both suburban and rural branches receive knowledgeable, high-quality assistance.

Anne Arundel County residents also rely on SLRC's statewide resource-sharing network. Through Maryland Interlibrary Loan, our libraries borrow books and materials beyond local collections, giving customers—particularly those in rural communities—access to specialized, academic, and hard-to-find resources efficiently and at no additional cost.

Anne Arundel County  
Public Library  
5 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis MD 21401  
**410-222-7371**  
aacpl.net

Our system benefits from participation in Digital Maryland, which allows Anne Arundel County libraries to contribute to and access digitized historical and cultural materials. This is especially valuable for rural communities, where digital access expands reach while preserving local history for future generations.

SLRC-supported databases are heavily used by Anne Arundel County K-12 students and educators, providing reliable, curriculum-aligned research tools. These databases are also widely used by county library customers of all ages, supporting workforce development, lifelong learning, and informed civic engagement.

Through SLRC's statewide purchasing and service model, Maryland achieves significant cost savings while ensuring that rural and urban counties alike have equitable access to high-quality electronic resources. Senate Bill 410 proposes a modest, disciplined adjustment to sustain this proven system beginning in FY2028.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on Senate Bill 410.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Skip Auld". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Skip" being more prominent than the last name "Auld".

Charles M. "Skip" Auld  
Chief Executive Officer

# **SB 410 Testimony - Support.pdf**

Uploaded by: Thomas Vose

Position: FAV



Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair  
Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice-Chair  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 16, 2026

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

The Ruth Enlow Library would like to add its voice in support of **SB 410**, which provides critical funds for the State Library Resource Center (SLRC), an essential partner in the operations of public libraries throughout the State.

This Library has benefited immensely from the resources SLRC has provided over the years, most of which would be out of reach for rural libraries such as ours. SLRCs support has made available research databases for our patrons that connect them to trusted information - all the more valuable in this day and age where lies are free and the truth is paywalled. The interlibrary loan services SLRC enables makes it possible for people in our communities to obtain materials smaller libraries such as ours simply wouldn't have the budget to accommodate. And the continuing education classes SLRC provides has helped Maryland's librarians become some of the best in the country and able to pursue the best new ways of making our communities more connected.

**The Ruth Enlow Library supports SB 410, and hopes you will as well.**

Sincerely,



Thomas Vose  
Director, Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County

**SB0410\_SLRC Howard.pdf**

Uploaded by: Tonya Aikens

Position: FAV



HOWARD COUNTY  
LIBRARY SYSTEM

*Learn. Grow. Connect.*

**Testimony in support of SB0410: Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding**  
**Hearing before the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee**  
**February 16, 2026**  
**Submitted by Tonya Aikens, Howard County Library System President & CEO**

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express support for **SB0410: Public Libraries - State Library Resource Center - Funding**, which would ensure modest, periodic increases to the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) per capita funding formula beyond FY 2026.

The Enoch Pratt Free Library's Central Library was designated the State Library Resource Center (SLRC) in 1971 to provide and expand access to specialized library materials and services necessary for coordinated, efficient, and economical library services in Maryland. Unlike most states, Maryland does not have a State Library, making access to State Library Resource Center services critical to Maryland libraries and residents across the state.

Howard County residents benefit immensely from the State Library Resource Center services.

- Our community members, including all Howard County Public School System students, have access to various educational databases, including Gale, Heritage Quest, and Mango Languages, provided at no cost to HCLS. The consortium rate paid is \$600,000, while the price for HCLS and all other library systems to purchase their own would be \$4.6 Million.
- Libraries, schools, and local governments throughout the state benefit from the high-speed internet connection service provided at no cost to recipients through the State Library Resource Center.
- SLRC has a collection of nearly one million items. Many of these items are rare, historic, or directly relevant to Maryland. No other library in the state can afford to purchase and maintain such items.
- Maryland library staff are required to maintain a number of ongoing professional development training credit hours to remain certified in the state. SLRC provides free trainings to help fulfill those requirements.
- In FY2025, SLRC responded to 267,704 reference inquiries, facilitated nearly 300,000 interlibrary loan transactions statewide, and enabled 1.5 million student database sessions. That scale translates into direct impact for our residents. When a Howard County community member requires specialized resources, SLRC ensures access. When a student needs authoritative research tools, SLRC delivers them.

This bill strengthens Maryland's library infrastructure. It protects equity across counties, and it safeguards access for our residents.

Thank you for your past support of the State Library Resource Center, and we ask that you **favorably recommend SB0410** for passage.

Sincerely,

Tonya Aikens,  
President & CEO