April 7, 2022

Senator **[type in your legislator]**

Legislative District **[type in your district number]**

New Jersey Senate [**look up district address here** <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster> ]

Dear Senator [**type in your legislator**]:

My name is **[your name],** and I serve as the library director at the **[insert library name]** Library. We are located in the district you represent - New Jersey’s [**add your district number]** Legislative District.

I am reaching out to ask for your support of the Per Capita State Aid (PCSA) Bill – S2455, as introduced by Senator Linda Greenstein. The funding for this appropriation was approved by the NJ legislature in 1959, at $1.13 per year, per NJ resident, as the State of New Jersey’s investment in libraries, to improve the quality of life of New Jersey residents.

In 2010, due to budget exigencies, the funding for the PCSA was reduced to 43 cents per capita, and it was flat-funded since then. Thank you for adding $1 million to the Per Capita State Aid last year, however, the appropriation is still underfunded at 46 cents per New Jersey resident in the FY22 budget. I am asking you to invest at least $1 dollar per NJ resident, in the Per Capita State Aid for libraries, in the FY23 budget. Bill S2455, introduced by Senator Greenstein, will do just that.

Public libraries serve as community resilience centers. Our residents depend on their local libraries to find jobs, access technology and digital resources, support school-aged children, learn new skills, attend numerous life-enriching programs, or simply as a GPS for life. Our libraries are community anchors. They are indispensable and often is the one resource that binds the community together.

**[add a story about your library here]**

Please sign on to S2455 to keep New Jersey’s libraries equipped to serve our communities. Thank you for your consideration. I am immensely grateful that we can count on you.

**[Your name],** Director

Name Public Library

Email

Phone