

[Peter Bove](#) Message to the CT Legislatures considering de-funding library support. Think about this for a minute. Governor Malloy is touting his Second Chance initiative that gives non-violent criminals (usually drug related offenders) a chance at redemption and a pathway to forgiveness and opportunity. And what better vehicle to offer this rehabilitation than a local library. Libraries, with more funding, not less, can serve as a starting point for anyone who is committed to really making a positive change in their lives. Sure, the governor thinks we need to build more modern schools and less modern prisons, and while that's a wonderful, if not idealistic and costly goal, local libraries already exist and are the repository of the one thing that will allow an individual to improve their lot in life: KNOWLEDGE. Anyone can begin the journey to self awareness and learn about the wealth of possibilities through reading, which will lead to reflection, which will lead to action. The motivation won't come from TV, the internet, the local mall, the media, or for many people, traditional schooling. It will often start with a word, or an idea or simply, a question. We should be pouring money into our local libraries to allow them to modernize and expand their programs and services to reach the broadest populations possible in their respective communities.