

March 2, 2015

To Representatives in charge of Library Grants:

As a life-long library patron and recent library volunteer I would encourage INCREASING rather than cutting any grants and or funding to our local libraries.

Over the decades our methods of research and the way we read may have changed but libraries are still the source of information in any format. Collections need to be updated constantly to meet the needs of regular patrons and to attract younger uses as well. By way of interlibrary loan/the "CCAR", small libraries can make the most of limited shelf space and still offer their patrons the widest range of materials. One only has to see the number of items arriving at the library on any given day to realize how much we as patrons enjoy and depend on this valuable resource.

Library services and programs offer so much to young readers and their families. Reading is the basis of all education and when I see the amount of money in education budgets, I find it shameful that libraries, many of which recruit and make good use of volunteers, have to fight to maintain the services they have been offering.

I hope this reaches someone who has recently had time to visit her/his local library and understands how important this part of our community really is.

Thank you.

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