Good morning Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Formica, Representative Lavielle, and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee. My name is Kendall Wiggin and I am State Librarian.

Governor Lamont’s budget proposal for the FY 2020 – FY 2021 Biennium funds State Library programs at current year levels. There is an increase in Personal Services and the Interlibrary Delivery Service that annualizes funding for state employee wage adjustments. There is also a small increase to cover additional costs for building security on Saturdays. That increase is reflected in personal services but should have been included in Other Expenses. The proposed budget meets our federal Maintenance of Effort requirements, but just barely and any further reductions would result in a proportional loss of federal funds.

To provide the new committee members with some perspective, the proposed budget is 34% lower than it was 10 years ago. During that time programs such as state aid to public libraries have been eliminated and other statewide library programs substantially scaled back. The State Library has struggled to maintain its statutory status as the state’s principal law library and to carry out its legal responsibilities for public records, state archives, the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and the Museum of Connecticut History.

Our budget supports statewide resource sharing; reduces local costs; fosters cooperation; and produces a substantial return on investment. For every state tax dollar invested in researchIT, libraries save $30. That amounted to over $36 million last year schools, public libraries and academic libraries. Last year the Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC) saved libraries over $7.4 million and borrowIT saved citizens over $58 million.
After years of budget reductions, I am respectfully asking that you consider a modest increase in the state's investment in libraries by restoring some funding for 4 important programs to maintain a level of statewide service that helps your local libraries and the citizens they serve.

In no priority order:

- Restore state support for the **Statewide Digital Library** by $415,000
- Restore state support for the **Connecticut Library Consortium** by $208,100 to cover at least 30% of its budget. (In the budget under Support Cooperating Library Service Units.)
- Restore state support for **borrowIT CT** by $300,000—that's .005% of the overall value of the program.
- Restore $250,000 to the **Legal Legislative Library Materials** line to secure up-to-date online legal resources as well as purchase new titles for the State Library.

**Statewide Digital Library: Connecticut’s libraries—public, school and academic—rely on the Statewide Digital Library for access to vetted, trusted information resources.**

- **researchIT, findIT and requestIT** have suffered 43% in funding cuts since 2009 making it harder for Connecticut taxpayers and students to access information. Without stable funding, these crucial programs can no longer provide online access to trusted information resources, to books in libraries throughout the state and inter-library loan of physical materials.
- They are solid investments of hard-earned taxpayer dollars: For every state tax dollar invested in researchIT, public schools and libraries as well as colleges and universities save $30.
- Restore state support by $415,000 and help safeguard access to information. The funding will enable the State Library to maintain the statewide catalog (findIT) and inter-library loan system (requestIT) as well as strengthen the Library’s new eBook platform (e>GO) and add resources for small businesses and jobseekers.

**Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC): Fund CLC and stretch Connecticut’s tax dollar.**

- **CLC’s statutory charge to negotiate cost savings contracts for Connecticut’s public libraries has been gutted by continual budget cuts. In 2018, state funding only covered 15% of this cost-effective program that saved $7.4 million**
in hard-earned taxpayer dollars. These cuts have also undermined CLC’s ability to provide professional development and resource-sharing programs.

- CLC manages over 40 contracts that provide a $60 public service return on investment for every tax dollar used.
- Our libraries need Connecticut to fund more than 15 percent of CLC’s budget so it can stop bleeding its reserves dry. Restore state support by $208,100 to cover at least 30% of its budget.

borrowIT (formerly CCard): Borrowing materials from 192 public libraries across Connecticut defines resource sharing.

- Right now, state funding reimburses libraries less than one-quarter of the cost of loaning materials to non-resident borrowers through borrowIT. If this rate doesn’t increase, libraries across the state will begin to opt out of borrowIT severely restricting access to materials.
- Public libraries need reimbursement rates that work so that every state resident can continue to access borrowIT.
- In 2017, over 3.8 million items were loaned through borrowIT. Connecticut’s public libraries saved its citizens over $58 million through this program. Restore state support for borrowIT by $300,000—that’s .005% of the overall value of the program.

Sharing Legal Resources Levels the Playing Field: State Agency and taxpayer access to legal information is essential to protecting the rights of Connecticut’s citizens.

- As the Principal Law Library for Connecticut, the State Library’s budget cuts have meant decreasing access to legal information for both our citizenry and state agencies that rely on these materials.
- Funding cuts have forced the State Library to use its Capital Equipment Purchase Fund to pay for some of these needed legal resources. Agency cuts have resulted in the elimination or severe reductions in shared legal resources available to state workers—making it more difficult for them to do their jobs. This is not the way taxpayers expect the State Library to use bond funds.
- Restoring $250,000 to the Legal Legislative Library Materials line will help secure up-to-date online legal resources as well as purchase new titles.
Libraries are part of the solution to a strong Connecticut. They are advancing basic literacy, financial literacy, health literacy, digital literacy and more. Public Libraries are the only institutions in our state that work with every age group, every generation.

Who We Are and What We Do

Mission
Established in 1854, the mission of the Connecticut State Library is to preserve and make accessible Connecticut's history and heritage and to advance the development of library services statewide.

Statutory Responsibility

The twelve member State Library Board has responsibility for:
- The supervision of the State Library by a State Librarian
- Planning for state-wide library service, other than for school libraries
- Maximum state participation in federal aid for public libraries
- Establishing standards for principal public libraries
- Appointing an advisory council for library planning and development
- Instituting and conducting programs of state-wide library service
- Maintaining the state's principal law library
- Maintaining a library service for the blind and other persons with disabilities
- Planning and developing the Connecticut Digital Library
- Making construction grants to public libraries
- Creating and maintaining the official state archives
- Programs for library development and reader services
- Operating the Raymond E. Baldwin Museum of Connecticut History and Heritage

Organizational Structure

The State Library is a flat organization, organized around a matrix structure. Group Services support the agency's program units by providing business services, collection services, cataloging services, information technology services across the Library and ensures access to the Library's extensive collections. In 2011, the Department of Administrative Services’ Small Agency Resource Team (SMART) became responsible for the State Library's Human Resources needs and most of the Library's business office operations.

Access Services
Maintains and provides access to:

- A collection of public policy resources, comprehensive collections of Connecticut and United States government publications dating from the late 1700s to the present. These collections, numbering well over a million and a half pieces, support the Library's roles as the Regional Federal Depository for Connecticut and Rhode Island, and as the Connecticut State Documents repository.

- A comprehensive collection of legal, legislative, and public policy resources. The collection includes statutes and case reports for all 50 U.S. states and federal jurisdictions. The collection also includes a broad range of legal treatises, law periodicals, loose-leaf services, and electronic resources on topics relevant to state government interests that include the archives of Connecticut General Assembly documents, indexes to legislative bills, House and Senate proceedings, public hearings, and compilations of legislative histories for Connecticut Public and Special Acts. The State Library Bill Room provides information on the status of current Connecticut state legislation, and supplies copies of pending and current legislation on request.

- A comprehensive collection of materials on the history of Connecticut and its people. Resources include an extensive collection of local histories and genealogies with particular emphasis on Connecticut and New England, most Connecticut town vital records, land records, probate records from the 1600s to the early 1900s, church records from hundreds of Connecticut churches, transcriptions of family Bible records and cemetery inscriptions, abstracts of newspaper notices of marriages and deaths, military records, the Federal census records for Connecticut, 1790-1930, comprehensive and retrospective collections of Connecticut atlases and maps (including Sanborn Fire Insurance Atlases), city directories, and the most comprehensive collection of Connecticut newspapers from colonial times to the present.

Collection Services
Responsible for the acquisitions and administering the Library Materials budget; collection development; documents processing; monograph and serial processing; preservation; digitization and electronic resource acquisition.

Discovery & Delivery Services
Responsible for cataloging and Meta Data creation for the Library's collections; and managing the library's integrated library system.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Is a network library of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress. The Library provides a free mail loan of recorded and braille books and magazines and necessary playback equipment to eligible state residents unable to read conventional print because of a visual or physical disability.

**Division of Library Development**
The Division provides leadership, funding, education, and statewide services that enhance a local library’s ability to deliver high-quality library service to their community.

*deliverIT CT* (formerly *Connecticar*) provides a delivery service to 226 public and academic libraries in Connecticut, transporting books and other items for patrons providing support for statewide resource sharing.

*borrowIT CT* (formerly *Connecticard*) is a statewide reciprocal borrowing program allowing Connecticut citizens to use their hometown library cards in any public library in Connecticut. The Division administers the program including grants that partially reimburse libraries for non-resident use.

**Consulting and Training Services** support the local library’s ability to provide high quality library services that are responsive to the needs of their communities.

*research IT CT* (formerly *iCONN*), *Connecticut’s research engine* provides all students, faculty and residents in Connecticut with online access to essential library and information resources. Through *researchIT CT*, a core level of information resources including a statewide catalog and interlibrary loan system is available to every citizen in the state. In addition, specialized research information is available to college students and faculty.

*The Middletown Library Service Center* provides collection support, a technology training lab, consulting and training and professional development materials for Connecticut library staff.

**Public Library Grants** provide basic support for public libraries in Connecticut.

*The Public Library Construction program* provides grants for public library construction projects to improve library facilities to meet their communities' changing needs.

*Statistical data* on public libraries is compiled annually and published online. The Division submits statistical data to the Federal-State Cooperative System for Public Library Data and compiles and reports statistical and narrative data on the State Library agency to the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
Federal support for libraries from the Institute of Museum and Library Services is administered through the division. The Division also coordinates and approves E-Rate Technology Planning for public libraries.

Office of the Public Records Administrator
The Office of the Public Records Administrator is responsible for designing and implementing a records management program for all state agencies within the executive department, and the towns, cities, boroughs, districts, and other political subdivisions of the state. The office establishes records retention schedules and records management guidelines; publishes regulations regarding the construction of vaults, the filing of permanent land maps in the towns, and the electronic recording of land records; and monitors the annual examination of land record indexes. The office administers the State Records Center, which provides state agencies with off-site storage of inactive records at no charge. It also inspects and approves public records storage facilities and municipal vaults. The office administers the Historic Documents Preservation Program, which assists municipalities in improving the preservation and management of their historic records. The office carries out a program to identify and preserve essential records necessary for disaster response and recovery of normal business operations by the state and its political subdivisions. By statute, the Public Records Administrator and the State Archivist must approve the disposition of all public records prior to their destruction or transfer.

State Archives
Since 1855, the Connecticut State Library has acquired historical records from the three branches of state government. In 1909, the General Assembly made the State Library the official State Archives. The Archives include more than 46,638 cubic feet of records from state and local governments, private organizations and individuals. These records document the evolution of state public policy and its implementation, the rights and claims of citizens, and the history of Connecticut and its people. The State Archivist assists the Public Records Administrator in developing records management guidelines, regulations and records retention schedules for state agencies and local governments. By statute, the State Archivist must review all records retention schedules issued by the Public Records Administrator and records disposal authorizations submitted to the Public Records Administrator.

Museum of Connecticut History
The Museum is located in the Connecticut State Library and Supreme Court Building. The Museum consists of Memorial Hall, a magnificently restored beaux-arts style gallery, and three adjoining exhibit areas. On permanent display are portraits of Connecticut
Governors as well as historic documents, including the State's original 1662 Royal Charter, the 1636 Fundamental Orders, and the 1818 and 1964 State Constitutions. The primary focus of the Museum's collection is Connecticut's government, military and industrial history. Permanent and changing exhibits trace the growth of the state and its role in the development of the nation from the Colonial era to the present.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak about the State Library's budget. My staff and I welcome the opportunity to address your questions both today and when we meet with the Education Subcommittee.
## CT State Library
### Office of the State Librarian

### Budget Comparison

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<td>Total Appropriation</td>
<td>13,240,453</td>
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<td>8,511,757</td>
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<td>Total Allocation</td>
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<td>9,167,528</td>
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<td>Permanent Full Time (GF Authorized)</td>
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<td>Personal Services</td>
<td>5,856,069</td>
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<td>5,019,931</td>
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<td>4,815,759</td>
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<td>4,994,518</td>
<td>5,115,448</td>
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<td>Other Expenses</td>
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<td>Statewide Digital Library</td>
<td>2,777,691</td>
<td>1,767,871</td>
<td>1,750,193</td>
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<td>1,575,174</td>
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<td>Interlibrary Loan Delivery</td>
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<td>276,232</td>
<td>244,853</td>
<td>248,609</td>
<td>259,604</td>
<td>256,795</td>
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<td>Library Materials</td>
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<td>638,378</td>
<td>574,540</td>
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<td>Computer Access</td>
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<td>CLSU's</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>190,000</td>
<td>184,300</td>
<td>184,300</td>
<td>180,946</td>
<td>124,402</td>
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<td>Grants in Aide</td>
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<td>CCARD</td>
<td>1,226,028</td>
<td>806,000</td>
<td>781,820</td>
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Our Libraries as Great Collections
Connecticut's public libraries hold a total of 15 million physical items.
- 86% are books.
- 4.1 books for every person in the state (national average is 2.4)
- The average public library holds 82,458 physical items

Our Libraries as Valued Destinations
19 million people visited Connecticut's public libraries last year.
- 5.3 visits per capita (the national average is 4.4)
- They asked 2.9 million reference questions
- 2.2 million people attended programs
- 4,366 library internet computers were used 3.6 million times

Over 24.2 million items were borrowed from public libraries in fiscal 2018
- 7 items per person
- 66 thousand items per day

Support for Our Libraries
Operating expenditures for Connecticut's public libraries was $1.99 million
- About the same as the New York Yankees payroll!
- Only 1.2% of town/city taxes go to support public libraries
- CT citizens donated $13.2 million to their local public libraries
- Per capita support of libraries is $55.