



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Proposed Bill No. 5547

LCO No. 1815



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:

REP. JOHNSON, 143rd Dist.
REP. GRESKO, 121st Dist.
REP. FAZZINO, 83rd Dist.
REP. ELLIOTT, 88th Dist.

REP. BROWN, 127th Dist.
SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.
SEN. MAHER, 26th Dist.

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE STATE LIBRARIAN TO ESTABLISH A
STATE-WIDE BOOK GIFTING PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 That the general statutes be amended to require the State Librarian,
- 2 in partnership with a nonprofit organization that promotes reading by
- 3 children, such as Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, to establish a state-
- 4 wide book gifting program for children from birth until the age of five
- 5 at no cost to families. The State Librarian's duties for the purposes of
- 6 such program shall include, but need not be limited to, promoting state-
- 7 wide development of such program, recruiting volunteers,
- 8 administering a local match requirement and coordinating the collection
- 9 and remittance of local program costs for books and mailing.

Statement of Purpose:

To require the State Librarian to establish a state-wide book gifting program for children under the age of five for the purpose of advancing

new and strengthening existing local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs.