



Policy Initiatives

Updated July 1, 2021

Streamline & Modernize Library Program Requirements **S6511 (Ryan) / A7021 (Jean-Pierre)**

*Status: Passed Senate & Assembly.
Awaiting delivery to Governor.*

These technical amendments replace outdated provisions with new language to consolidate and modernize programs and, streamline planning and reporting requirements to improve efficiency.

Training for Library Trustees **S4435B (May) / A6121B (Jean-Pierre)**

*Status: Passed Senate & Assembly.
Awaiting delivery to Governor.*

If enacted, this bill would ensure that those choosing to serve their libraries as a trustee have comprehensive training, reflective of their communities, each year.

Increased Access to the Library Construction Program **S5753A (Ryan) / A7060A (Jean-Pierre)**

*Status: Passed Senate & Assembly.
Awaiting delivery to Governor.*

If signed by the Governor, this bill would allow library systems, who are responsible for distributing the Program funds to their libraries, greater flexibility.

Access to E-Books **S2890B (May) / A5837B (Jean-Pierre)**

*Status: Passed Senate & Assembly.
Awaiting delivery to Governor.*

This bill would require that publishers who offer electronic books to the private market, also extend licenses to libraries within the State, without discrimination.

Media Literacy in New York State

*Status: No action taken in 2021.
Requires sponsorship in upper-house.*

A6153A (Rosenthal)

This bill would require teachers and library media specialists to complete professional development related to media literacy education.

A6225A (Rosenthal)

This legislation would ensure that a school library media specialist is in each elementary, intermediate, middle, junior high and senior high school.

A6142A (Rosenthal)

If passed, the commissioner of education would be required to appoint a media literacy advisory group to study the teaching of media literacy in New York State.

Media Literacy Curriculum (Pending Introduction)

All children deserve a comprehensive education. This proposal would require media literacy as a curriculum in K-12 and establish a certified media specialist as the preferred instructor.

School Library Facility Modernization

S6053 (Kaplan) / A6339 (Jensen)

Status: No action taken in 2021.

The current regulation that defines a school library facility has not been updated in over twenty years.

This proposal would address the antiquated metrics within NY-CRR 91.1 and insert characteristics associated with a successful, 21st century school library.

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