



Pennsylvania School Librarians Association

## **PA House of Representatives “One Librarian Per School Building” Bill**

Please sign the co-sponsorship memoranda “*One Certified Librarian Per Public School*” being circulated by [Rep. Mark Longietti](#) and [Rep. Thomas Murt](#).

The bill when officially introduced in the House of Representatives will require state-certified school librarians in every public school in Pennsylvania, providing equity of educational opportunities for all K-12 students.

The co-sponsorship memo can be read at

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/CSM/showMemoPublic.cfm?chamber=H&SPick=20170&cosponId=22917>.

### **Talking Points:**

- All students deserve access to quality resources and instruction that a school library program with a certified librarian provides, not just those who live in a wealthy zipcode.
- School librarians teach students to evaluate information that they read, see or view, learning how to distinguish reliable and trustworthy information from misinformation and fake news.
- School librarians don’t just read stories and check out books, they are teachers who teach skills mandated in Pennsylvania Academic Core Standards, contributing to higher standardized test scores and graduation rates.
- Prison libraries are required to have certified librarians in Pennsylvania, but not our public schools.
- School librarians and library programs can close the achievement gap among struggling learners. According to a [2012 study of Pennsylvania reading and writing test scores](#), students who are poor, black, and Hispanic benefit proportionally more than students generally when they have a full-time certified librarian than those who don't.

For more information, read a recent op-ed published in the *Harrisburg Patriot*: “Who should teach our kids the difference between real and fake news? Our librarians!”

<http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2017/02/who-should-teach-our-kids-the.html>

For more information, contact Debra E. Kachel, PSLA Legislative Liaison, [dkachel69@comcast.net](mailto:dkachel69@comcast.net)