|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
| Address |

The Honorable State Representative Jim Rigby

432 Irvis Office Building

PO Box 202071

Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Representative Rigby,

With your support last year, the PA budget approved a 9.18% increase to public library funding for the 2020-21 budget. The increase was designed to help libraries meet state guidelines, stay open longer to better accommodate working families, and improve programs like sensory story times and STEM initiatives. Due to the state shutdown, that funding for libraries is now in danger.

Our community urgently needs your help again. With the bifurcated budget only funding libraries through November 2020, we are at risk of losing important library services. Because of the shutdown many libraries have already had to lay off staff, reduce programming, and redirect funds to unplanned safety measures.

Families in your district need you to fight for library funding, because there is a real possibility that communities will lose access to educational materials, WiFi and computers, and important services. The state shutdown has shown us how vital libraries are for residents, and a long-term drop in library funding would be harmful to many people.

Please continue to support public libraries in the 2020-21 budget. The increase that has already been passed must continue for the rest of the PA fiscal year.

Libraries are a sign of healthy, supported communities. Libraries help children learn to read, help people find jobs, and so much more. We thank you for supporting our public libraries.

Sincerely,

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature |  |  |
| Name |
| Additional Message |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |