

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

SB 143	PA 590	1967
House 4535-4538		(4)
Senate 1849	LAW/LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE DO NOT REMOVE FROM LIBRARY	(1)
Appropriations 262-271		(10)
Education 133-134, 342-343, 344-350, 352-353, 367-371, 379-381, 383		(32) total - 47 p.

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Connecticut State Library
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CONNECTICUT
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HOUSE

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Will you remark further? If not, the question is on acceptance and passage of the bill. All those in favor will say aye. All those opposed? The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 1313. Substitute for Senate Bill No. 143. AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF STATE FUNDS TO FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

MR. WILLIAM T. BLAKE, 116TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark?

MR. WILLIAM T. BLAKE, 116TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, this proposal sets up a new routine for supporting State Public Libraries. It establishes the concept of the principle of free public libraries and the branch libraries and provides any free public--principal public library would get \$600.00, the branches \$500.00, and from this floor, additional money would be allocated to these principal libraries on the basis of population served. It's a step forward in support of public library resource.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further?

JEAN T. THORNTON, 21st DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, through you, a question to the gentleman. You referred to the branch library, does this mean a separate library, a non-profit library, would be excluded?

MR. WILLIAM T. BLAKE, 116TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, through you, non-profit libraries would not be excluded.

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The free principal public library is established and need not be contiguous with town boundaries. One or more towns could establish a single large library as the principal library and all the branches serving that particular population would be branches.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further?

JEAN T. THORNTON, 21ST DISTRICT:

Through you, Mr. Speaker, to the gentleman reporting out the bill. Does this mean that a separate library now would have to become a branch of the principal public library in town?

MR. WILLIAM T. BLAKE, 116TH DISTRICT:

Through you, Mr. Speaker, this is my understanding - would maintain the support for these libraries at the present level, though.

MR. JOTHAM G. REYNOLDS, 54TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, through you, may I ask a question to the gentleman who read the bill in? Is there any provision in this bill that no library will receive less during the 1969 biennium than it receives this biennium?

MR. SPEAKER:

Would the gentleman care to respond?

MR. WILLIAM T. BLAKE, 116TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, through you, to the gentleman's question, he is correct. There is a floor established at the present level. What the bill does provide is a formula for allocating additional funds beyond the minimum to libraries which serve the larger population centers.

MR. JOTHAM G. REYNOLDS, 54th DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, it would seem to me then that you're showing some preference to where the population centers are larger and not providing the towns with

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libraries now will receive as much, possibly they could receive less in the next biennium than they're receiving at this one.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further?

MR. GUIDO LAGROTTA, 170TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, this bill is another instance of trying to make a purse of a sow's ear. It does not, in any way, start to do in any substance what is needed to be done for our public libraries. However, Mr. Reynolds is correct. This is another step in the general move of this Assembly to consider nothing but population centers as a major part of the pool of money which is to be distributed will be on a population basis. Granted, the initial allowance will go from \$500.00 to \$600.00. This is a step toward support of libraries and, for that reason, I can't oppose this bill. I don't particularly like the form it has taken nor the amount involved.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further?

MR. ROBERT T. CAIRNS, 72ND DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, I'm puzzled by the bill and by the debate. It seems to me that all I see indicated as a change is that said committee may establish recommended standards for principal public libraries periodically review the same, to carry out its duties, it may make contracts subject to the approval of the Attorney General. Nothing having to do with money is italicized. There is no indication as the bill is printed that there is any change at all in what is being appropriated or made available to the different towns. I wonder if the Chairman of Education could enlighten me on that? Through you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Would the gentleman care to respond?

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MR. WILLIAM T. BLAKE, 116TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, through you, there are several sections which show no italicization. There are no changes indicated in any of the sections in total which means they are all new. If an entire section is printed that is new, it is not italicized. The fact that it is there without change means that it is new.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further? If not, the question is on acceptance and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate. All those in favor will say aye. All those opposed. The bill is passed.

THE CLERK:

Calendar 1314 Modified Senate Bill No. 701. AN ACT CONCERNING STATE POLICE FORCE MOTOR PATROL.

MR. STANLEY A. BIGOS, 45TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question is on acceptance and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate. Will you remark?

MR. STANLEY A. BIGOS, 45TH DISTRICT:

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes an increase in the State Police Force of 75 patrolmen, funds amounting to one million point two hundred thousand is including in the 67-69 Governor's recommended budget for this purpose. The additional troopers are needed for increased road patrol. It's a good bill and I move its passage.

MR. SPEAKER:

Will you remark further? If not, the question is on acceptance and

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SENATOR JACKSON:

I move the acceptance of the Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill, as amended. On May 25, I made several remarks, I urge passage.

THE CHAIR:

If there are no further remarks, as many as are in favor of passage of this bill, signify by saying, "aye". Contrary minded. The bill is passed.
Cal. No. 1056 File No. 1179 Substitute for Senate Bill No. 143 An Act concerning Payment of State Funds to Free Public Libraries. Favorable report of the Committee on Appropriations.

SENATOR FERLAND:

Mr. President, I move the acceptance of the favorable report and passage of the bill. This bill revises section 11-1 by adding to Section 1 a ~~theory~~ for the Library committee to recommend standards of Public Libraries and to make contracts. It also revises Section 3 payments to towns from the present \$500 or 5 cents per capita per library to \$600 per libraries in each town and \$500 for each other library in town. The balance of funds to be available distributed to towns with more than 10,000 population, in proportion to their population. It is estimated the funds appropriated in the 1967-69 biennium will provide approximately 16 cents per capita. In the second year biennium each town must match it, if the matching states no funds in order for them to qualify for any grant at all. I urge passage.

THE CHAIR:

As many of you who are in favor of passage of the bill signify by saying Aye, contrary minded. The bill is passed.
Cal. No. 1057 File No. 1180 Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1595 An Act concerning Reimbursement of Towns for State Aid for Welfare Purpose.

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Justice Baldwin (Continued)

Costs in North Atlantic and Pacific Coast states were well above this amount. In 1965 the per capita cost had risen in the United States, according to the United States Office of Education, to \$4.47.

A number of Connecticut's town libraries receive less than \$1 per capita for operating purposes. The majority of the public libraries in the state receive less than \$2 per person, when you see the average cost is nearly \$5.

Senate Bill No. 143 (Senator Schaffer of the 14th District, Senator Caldwell of the 23rd District, Senator Pauliso of the 1st District) AN ACT CONCERNING PAYMENT OF STATE FUNDS TO FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES, WHICH WE presented to the Committee on Education yesterday is really the major part - the activated part of this plan because in order to carry out this plan and in order to activate the recommendations of these committees which were incorporated in this plan, we have got to have money to do it.

The committee requested in its budget the sums of \$3,700,000 for the first year and \$4,000,000 for the second year. The Governor has recommended \$208,000 which is an increase of \$48,000 over the \$160,000 which was expended each year this last biennium. This you can find on Page 342 of the Budget Report.

So much for the statewide library service - that is, the help that the State could and is expected to give, I think, by a large number of people for the support of library services throughout the State of Connecticut.

The Library Committee had a study made by the United Aircraft Corporation Systems Center on how the library research center should operate and its cost, and I have pamphlets here which I will pass around later that will demonstrate this report. It is a report on this library research center - this study that we had made. The pamphlet, as I say, is a digest of this study. The committee requested \$432,850 in the first year of the next biennium and \$544,990 in the second year to equip and operate this center. The Governor eliminated this item entirely - page 342 of the Budget Report.

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Justice Baldwin (Continued)

Those are two of the major purposes to be carried out by this statewide library plan.

The Third one is this. The committee also proposed to install on a rental basis a facsimile transmission equipment in the ten largest libraries in the state to enable printed pages of information to be transmitted by wire. In other words, a man who is researching a particular subject could walk into the library in Hartford or the State Library here and discover in minutes whether or not there was a book available in that particular field that he was interested in and the material he would like from that book could be transmitted by wire to him in a matter of minutes with this proposed wire service. This is a service which holds, I think and we all think, great promise for providing service to industry, to research and to education all up and down the line. Other states are embarking on such programs and Connecticut cannot afford, I think, to fall behind in information services. Of course, our record is that we have in this state, have had in the past, the largest number of applications for patents per capita than any other state in the United States. That has been our history. Now, how we have done it with the limited library services which we have, I don't know, but it seems to me that just in that one area of industry in the future, new things, new products, new processes, new procedures, all of which create employment, it is essential that we keep our library services and our library material available immediately to people who are interested in research. That is not only in industry. I think the figure was somewhere in the neighborhood of 380,000 people would use this particular service.

As I say, we asked for \$331,000 in the first year of the biennium and \$169,120 in the second year. This is on Page 342 of the Governor's budget report and the Governor did not include in his budget anything for this item.

Another item which doesn't pertain to library services but is within the ambit of our activities because we have charge of the buildings. We requested and the State Building Program Committee recommended a capital project of \$685,000 for an

Justice Baldwin (Continued)

addition to the Judicial wing - that is the west wing of the State Library and Supreme Court Building. No change in this side of the building has been made since 1908 when the building was constructed and I entertain the humble personal opinion that the drapes that were over there when I had my office over there some years ago - we have just had them renewed - were the same drapes that they put in the building in 1908. So, that has been a neglected child and we asked for an appropriation for improvements in this building - in the extension of the size of it - in the amount of \$685,000. That is on Page 448 of the budget report.

The Governor for the past six years has authorized committees and studies to improve library service. The State Library Committee, as I said before, has produced the programs which were requested, but apparently no money is to be provided to activate them.

We ask that the Governor's budget reductions in the above areas be restored.

There is one other item that I would like to speak about and this appears on Page 340 of the budget report. Last year we had in our appropriation \$48,500 which we needed to move into the new addition to the library which is under construction and is now nearing completion and that was not included in this present budget at all although we requested it. I don't know whether the plan is to carry over the money from the previous budget or whether we need a new appropriation there, but we will need the money. The \$48,500 figure is one that was arrived at after a study by some competent movers - the estimates that they made as to what it would cost to move the library material and equipment that is in the building into the new building and into the changes that have been made in the old building, so we urgently request the committee to restore these funds and say in closing on that subject that it is essential to us if we are going to activate the report that was made by these study committees inaugurated by the Governor, we are going to have to have money to do it.

Now, if I might depart from that subject for just

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Justice Baldwin (Continued)

a moment, I also am Chairman of the State Board of Education for Services for the Blind. I have been on that commission, I think, since 1955, and I have been tremendously interested in it, and during that time I have seen the work of that commission grow tremendously and I have seen come to the services that the Board requires new personnel that has been most effective and most helpful to the blind in the State. We have, of course, more people each year that we have to take care of with our growing population and then, too, new processes and procedures are available ^{now} that weren't ten and twenty years ago to help the blind. We try to keep up with all of these new things which we judge are advisable. We don't accept everything that comes along. We try to pick and choose what we think is going to be most helpful for our people.

In Mr. McCollum we have an extremely able director and he is going to address you later on the Board of Education of the Blind Services' budget. I want to say here before I sit down that I subscribe 100 percent to everything he says. Thank you very much.

Chairman Ferland: Any member of the committee have any questions?
Representative Earle.

Representative Ralph Earle, 99th. District: Mr. Baldwin, may I ask - I am a little hazy about study committee on libraries. How long has this been in existence?

Justice Baldwin: I think it started in 1962 and Mr. Engly who is the librarian out at Trinity College was chairman of the first committee. And then two years later, the committee was enlarged and broadened and continued its study so that they were available in 1965 and it was those studies that induced the General Assembly to broaden the powers of the State Library Committee and also the State Librarian.

Then, the new State Library Committee went to work with these reports to implement the suggestions that were made in them and in doing that work we held innumerable meetings with libraries throughout the state, with trustees of libraries, and here just recently, after we had introduced a proposed bill to implement this program and

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Justice Baldwin (Continued)

calling for an appropriation, we held there was some criticism of the bill - constructive criticism and we held a hearing in the Supreme Court Room, across the road, and we had a very large attendance. Library people were there and people interested in libraries from all over the State and we spent a morning going over the bill, practically line by line, and there were four amendments that were suggested to it, which the Library Committee adopted. I think we have practically unified support for this particular piece of legislation and for this appropriation. I don't know if that answers your question. It was a little long.

Representative Earle: Evidently from what you said, the culmination of this report was in your requested budget under State Library?

Justice Baldwin: That's right.

Representative Earle: There were three major recommendations, as I understand it, which were completely denied, in this budget. Were there any other major recommendations?

Justice Baldwin: That's right. I don't recall any. The rest of the budget, I think we can live with fairly well. They cut back some of our funds that we needed for additional personnel - that is really sorely needed - but other than that, I think as a general thing we can say that we could get along with the budget.

Representative Earle: In addition to that, what you are saying is that after all this study and so on and all the new programs which you found a need for throughout this State, they were denied?

Justice Baldwin: Yes. We have nothing for those at all. I am hopeful if we can't get the money, they will pass the legislation so that sometime in the future we will have the money, but the legislation won't mean anything in carrying out our purposes unless we have money to do it with.

Representative Earle: I was just going to make that point. I don't see much point in passing it but one other point. Do I understand you correctly in

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Representative Earle (Continued)

saying that there is no money in this budget to open the new wing which is presently being completed?

Justice Baldwin: Oh, no. That is not correct. There was money in the last budget - in the last appropriation bill. There was the sum of about \$48,000 for moving costs and that was left out of the new budget proposal. Now, we will need that money. Whether it was designed to have that old appropriation carried over. I always assumed that they all ended at the end of the biennium or 60 days after that, and whether or not it was proposed to carry that over, I don't know, but we are going to need an additional \$48,000 and that would go - you have the page that is on in the budget. I think it is Page 340. There is an item in there for Maintenance of Building - Personal Services and then Other Expenses and it was taken out of that item which is, as I say, on Page 340.

Representative Earle: Do you expect to move into this new addition before the end of this fiscal year?

Justice Baldwin: I don't know as we will before the end of this fiscal year but I don't think we can before the end of this fiscal year because we had an unfortunate experience with this library - I don't know as it was unfortunate but it was an unforeseen and unavoidable one. The original plans proposed by the State Librarian who proceeded Mr. Brown were re-examined by the new State Library Committee and we came to the conclusion - after we had made a thorough study of them - that they were not what we really needed. In other words, what we needed over there largely was stacks for books and these plans didn't call for an adequate expansion of the stacks to take care of the foreseeable future. As a matter of fact, the stacks we have there now don't take care of anywheres near what we have in books in the State Library let alone periodicals and all that sort of thing which we accumulate so rapidly. So we had to change the plans. As a result of that, there was a considerable delay in beginning. But we got underway and then we were unable to get the steel. That wasn't available, so that held it up some more. I doubt that we will be able to move into that addition before the first of July.

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Justice Baldwin (Continued)

We probably can get in during July and August of this year. We hope to. But we can't do it in this biennium. Now, if some arrangements can be made to carry that money over so that it will be available for moving. We are going to have the need of that money.

Chairman Ferland: Excuse me. In order to properly answer Representative Earle's question, might I call on Mr. Siegle of the Budget Department to clarify this question for us.

Representative Earle: Yes, I would suggest that, sir.

Mr. Joseph Siegle, Budget Division: Judge Baldwin, you are correct. The money cannot be carried over. However, when the budget was being prepared we did anticipate that the move would be completed by July 30 and, therefore, the money from the 1965-67 appropriation would be available. It still appears to be about a 50-50 chance that the move will be completed by the end of July in which case the funds which you now have available to the department could be carried over.

Justice Baldwin: Is it carried over 30 days or 60?

Mr. Siegle: Thirty days, sir. It would have to be liquidated by the last day of July so if the move is presumably started before July 1 and completed no later than July 30, the old year funds would be available to pay for that bill.

Justice Baldwin: I am not critical of the Budget Division. They were justified in their action believing, as they apparently did, that we could get in before the first of July or the first of August. But, I don't want to take any chance on it and I would be willing to give the word of the State Library Committee - and I am sure they will back me up on this - that if you put it into this budget next year, we will not transfer it anywhere else. Maybe that is something we should try to work out with the Budget Division but I doubt if the moving can be accomplished before the first of August and if it is that the bills will be in by that time.

Representative Earle: Mr. Siegle, could I pursue this just for a moment? It's fun to gamble but what happens

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Representative Earle (Continued)

if you lose in this particular instance?

Mr. Siegle: Well, there are two ways it could be handled. The first one would be, of course, for the Library Department to pay for the move out of other funds that they have available to it. I don't know if they will have \$50,000 available or \$40,000 to pay for it the first year.

The second way is to make the money available to them from their second year appropriation and reappear before you people two years hence and ask that the money be made available.

Justice Baldwin: Well, I don't recall - that is from my own experience - that that is the way it should be dealt with. I don't recall in recent years that we have asked for a deficiency appropriation. We hate to do that. If this money could be made available, I think it should be made available and if it could be used out of this present appropriation, maybe we could catch some of this other money into these systems that we are going to activate. I'd like to see an appropriation for that purpose unless some other plan can be worked out.

Chairman Ferland: Might I point out that by the time we draw up the Appropriation Act, at that time we will have definite knowledge as to whether or not you will be in a position to make the transfer within this present year and if not, I am sure it can be taken care of at that time. I can assure you that you will move.

Justice Baldwin: Yes. We will move. We will know better two months from now - than we know now.

Chairman Ferland: Any other questions by any of the other members of the committee? Representative Collins.

Representative Francis Collins, 165th District: Under the Free Public Library grants, the \$7.7 million dollars recommended by the library committee to increase the grants to communities, can you tell me what formula that was based on, sir?

Justice Baldwin: Yes, there are three formulas. The first formula was that the ceiling was set at \$5 per capita as the bottom money that ought to be

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Justice Baldwin (Continued)

available in every town for the support of public library services. We set that as a ceiling. Then we would expect that the towns would appropriate up to one-half of a mill on its grand list for library services and the State would appropriate an additional one-quarter - an amount representing an additional one-quarter mill. Of course, that is the minimum amount that you would get.

The next step would be that the town would appropriate an entire mill for library services and the State would make up the difference between that amount and \$5 per capita for that particular community. In other words, the State would pick up the biggest part of the load there. There are two reasons why that was worked out in that particular way. The first reason was that we want every community in the State to make an effort of its own for public library services in the State.

I notice there is a bill in the General Assembly which would reduce the penalty - which would take away any penalties for the town not making any appropriation. That is the only bill affecting libraries that we are opposed to because that runs counter to what this plan that we are trying to implement suggests be done. That is, that the local communities be encouraged to provide funds of their own for library services.

Then the next step is really the major step and that step would make it possible for a town if it appropriated one mill to get therefore from the state the difference between one mill and the amount represented by \$5 per capita which would bring the expenditure of local and state money for library services in that town up to the \$5 level which is really needed to maintain a good library. Of course, those funds could be used - they would have to be used under standards set up by the State Library Committee but they could be used as local authorities felt was more advisable for them to be used. Does that answer your question?

Representative Collins: Yes, it does and I would heartily commend your committee's approach to have the towns take on some responsibility for providing these services. I think it is a wise program.

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Representative Collins (Continued)

Just one more question, Judge. The \$208,000 which has been appropriated in each of the next two years - that does not represent any change in the present grant fund, does it?

Justice Baldwin: No, it doesn't. That merely represents an increase in the \$500 proposition that is now in existence.

Chairman Cohen: Any other questions by any of the members of the committee? Thank you, Judge Baldwin. Anybody else wish to be heard? If not, we will declare the hearing closed. We will now hear the State Board of Education. Commissioner Sanders.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION - SCHEDULE 7001

Mr. William Sanders, Secretary of the State Board of Education: I appreciate the opportunity to come before you today to make a statement on our budget. Of course, this is a large budget and I am sure that the committees of the Appropriations Committee will want to go over certain details. We stand ready to meet with them and also we stand ready to answer as many questions as you may care to ask this morning.

Mr. Lynch is distributing a statement and if I may call your attention to the face sheet, you will notice that the budget for current expenses was reduced by the Governor to the extent of \$6,500,000 - something more than that. The State Board is asking for restoration of \$3,771,000 of this amount.

The sixth item down under Current Expenses is Vocational Education. The Governor has reduced that by \$3,500,000. We are asking for \$768,000 only to be restored.

I would like to explain the reason for this. This budget was made up in the spring and summer. At that time, we anticipated a greater enrollment than it now appears we will have in our technical institutes and in the vocational-technical schools. The reason for the reduction in enrollment in the technical institutes is rather interesting. Many of these boys are very well equipped and after a year or so or even

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Dr. Santini: schools than now is the time for the State to put its money where its mandate is. Thank you.

Chm. Schaffer: Thank you Dr. Santini. Mr. William Vanbiman of Middletown.

Mr. Vanbiman: Madam chairlady, Mr. chairman, members of the Committee, I am William Vanbiman of Middletown and I am representing the Connecticut Library Association speaking in favor of S.B. 200, 490, H.B. 3241 and H.B. 3581. The Connecticut Library Association favors S.B. 143 on which we will speak at its hearing next week. This involves the grand list formula. We therefore favor these equalized grand list bills and ask that you give them favorable consideration.

Chm. Schaffer: Thank you. Mr. C.E. Funk of the State Library.

Mr. C.E. Funk: Madam chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the Committee, my name is Charles Funk. I am a resident of East Granby and an employee at the State Library. Mr. Walter Brahm, the State Librarian, is unable to be present today because of a meeting of the State Library Committee. The following statement is being made on his behalf. This Committee has before it, for hearing at a later date, S.B. 143 entitled "An Act Concerning Payment of State Funds to Free Public Libraries". We feel that S.B. 143 is a forward looking bill of the greatest importance in improving the public library services in the State, and we will appear before this Committee on its behalf at the proper time. At the present time, however, we wish to point out that S.B. 143 proposes a formula for state aid to public libraries that, for its best application, should be linked to an equalized grand list. We wish to go on record as being in favor of the above mentioned bills providing for the preparation of such a list. We wish also to express our opinion that, whereas the bills presently being considered, provide for the preparation of an equalized grand list only at a given point in time - that is, between July 1, 1967 and June 1, 1968 - we feel that it should be made a continuing responsibility of the tax Commissioner to maintain an equalized grand list in perpetuity, or until such time as it may become mandatory for the several towns to maintain their grand lists on an equalized basis.

Mr. C.E.Funk: To this latter end, we suggest that the present bills be amended as follows: Section 1, delete "On or before June 1, 1968". Section 2, After "1968" delete the word "said" and insert the words "the first such", in its stead. Section 4, insert after the word "dollars" the following, "for the fiscal year 1968 and the sum of forty thousand dollars annually thereafter". Thank you.

Chm. Schaffer: Thank you. Mrs. Marion Grant.

Mrs. Marion Grant: Madam chairman, members of the committee, my name is Marion Grant. I am a resident of 134 Field Road in West Hartford. As a citizen of Connecticut I should like to speak strongly in favor of H.B. 3909, introduced by Rep. Murray of Hartford. This bill would provide \$240 in State Aid for each and every school child in Connecticut. If the bill is passed and the State contribution to the education of our children than the State contribution would be almost 40% of the total cost. This is approximately the National average of what all States is to educate their children. At present, considerably less than the national average. It is a well known economic fact that the rate of an economic growth of a modern space-age community is commensurate with the rate of its educational growth. As one of the most highly industrialized States in the union, Connecticut must take great care to provide for the essential needs of its industries; namely, properly educated and well-trained potential employees. Without an ample supply of qualified personnel our factories and other great industries will be unable to expand and prosper, therefore, one are in which our State cannot afford to be penny-pinching or shortsighted is in education. It is to our enlightened self-interest, both as a State and as a capitol region that the schools for all of our children be of top-notch quality. Only by providing the very best of educational opportunities for our citizens can our State continue to be one of the richest in the Nation. It is a sad fact that Hartford, the capitol

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Rep. McCarthy: Madam chairman, member, Frances McCarthy representative from the 22nd district. I join my predecessor in testifying in support of S.B.143. I speak in principal in favor of increased support for public libraries as a matter of general education and in my experience in my town of Wethersfield and specific benefit to formal education distinguished from the generalized education which any free public library will provide. May I ask your favorable recognition of this principal. Thank you.

Rep. DellaVecchio: Madam chairman, members of the Education Committee, representative Della Vechio from the the 26th district. I would like to go on record of being in favor of S.B.143. The statements have, that is, the statements that have been made, the town has appropriated the sume of \$39,000 in our budget for the 1967-68 year and this bill would certainly aid our town which has a library which was built some 60 years ago to accomodate a population of 7,000; we now have a population of 26,000. Not only Southington but other municipalities in the State would be greatly helped by the proposed legislation, and it would be a less increase burden to the local tax rate. Thank you.

Chm. Schaffer: Are there any other members of the General Assembly?

Rep. Allan: Mrs.chairman, members of the committee, my name is Gerald Allan, representative from the town of Vernon, 47th district. I wish to go on record as favoring S.B.143 with regard to libraries; I think we all realize the importance of keeping our children educated which would certainly help to keep our country free and strong and I would urge you to give this bill favorable consideration.

Chm. Schaffer: May I again remind you that S.B.143, entitled Payment In State Funds to Free Public Libraries, although it is not listed, it is very much in the subject matter being heard today, and again there are copies at the back table. Are there other members of the General Assembly?

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Rep. Foley: Madam chairman, my name is Tom Foley from the 76th district and want to stand on record of supporting bill 143. Thank you.

Rep. LaGrotta: Chairman, members of the committee, Guy LaGrotta, would like to speak to H.B. 3386 and I understand, I am a representative, that I am allowed two minutes as a representative and five minutes as a party (inaudible). Two years ago I think we made a little bit of a landmark in starting to really give aid to public libraries; we gave \$500 and from that base, realistically this bill moves us forward to \$600 per free public library and \$.10 per person. It is our position, as has been stated before this, we have not given our attention to the libraries and if I may flagraize a phrase from our good republican Governor, with the population expsion, the information explosion, we think this is a minimum we should consider and urge your most favorable consideration of 3386.

Ben. Schaffer: Thank you. Any other members of the General Assembly? Could we ask you please to speak up we are having trouble for the recorder to be heard.

Rep. Hannon: Madam chairman, members of the committee, my name is George Hannon, 16th district, of East Hartford. I should like to speak ever so briefly on H.B. 3921, which is State grant for provision of reference books and not text books from the \$150 per school - to \$300 per school. This bill gave birth at the Conference of Mayors and is under my name sponsored by the Conferance of Mayors; I think it is a more practical feasible amount, \$300, in light of present day expenses and I should like to say that my own town of East Hartford spent 11 times that which they received from the State of Connecticut 1965-1966 and I certainly would urge favorable adoption of this bill.

Chm. Schaffer: Thank you. Rep. Mondani.

Rep. Mondani: Representative Mondani, 73rd district. I am speaking in behalf of one of my bills before the committee today that would put the school library grants on a per pupil basis rather than the current flat grant. The current grant does

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Rep. Mondani: not take into consideration the number of pupils involved, it merely provides \$150 to each school which expends at least twice that amount. A particular school may have an enrollment of 150-300,900 pupils and still receive the same amount. To my knowledge this is the only State grant for education and does not have any direct relationship to the number of pupils being served. This bill would also provide an additional category of expenditures which would qualify the State, that is, qualify for State funds. This would include films, film strips, and other audio visual supplies. The concept of a resource library must be expanded and take advantage of the new technical advances in education. School libraries today consist of more than reference books and supplemental texts and we must supply the funds to enable the schools districts to build an adequate supply of these materials. Too often many of the smaller districts do not have enough funds to purchase these filmstrips, etc. Many of them have the equipment. This does not provide any grant for equipment, it is strictly for supplies. But later, you will hear testimony from Mr. Mollard, from the State Library, over across the street, concerning another bill for films and filmstrips, etcetera, on loan to the public school library and public libraries in the State. Thank you.

Chm. Schaffer: Are there any other members of the General Assembly?

Rep. Wright: Representative Wright from the town of Stratford. H.B. 3780 - I support this bill very much and do to the fact that I am waiting for some information I would only say now I am in favor of the bill and I will submit to the Committee a statement later on. Thank you.

Chm. Schaffer: Have all the members of the General Assembly who wish to speak been heard, if not, well I'll call on Justice Raymond Baldwin.

Mr. Baldwin: Madam Chairman, members, ladies and gentlemen of the committee. I am Raymond E. Baldwin, chairman of the State Library Committee. I am speaking to S.B. 143. For many years the State of Connecticut had been granting \$500 per year to public libraries in each town. The 1965 General Assembly changed the grants to five cents per capita with a minimum of \$500. The total expenditure on the part of the State is about

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Mr. Baldwin: \$160,000 per year. You might contrast this with New York which provides 14 million per year and Massachusetts with 1.5 million. The average cost for operating public libraries in the U.S. serving 50,000 -300,000 population in 1962 was \$3.82 per person according to records of the American Library Association. In small towns the per capita cost was even higher. Costs in North Atlantic and Pacific Coast states were well above this amount. By 1965, the per capita cost had risen to \$4.47 the United States Office of Education reports. Good library service in 1967 requires at least \$5.00 per capita. A number of Connecticut's town libraries receive less than \$1 per capita for operating purposes. The majority of public libraries in the State receive less than \$2 per person. The 1965 General Assembly established a new state library committee and assigned to it the responsibility for planning statewide library service. This committee, of which I am chairman, has prepared a plan which has been thoroughly discussed, weighed, and evaluated for the past eight months by library interests throughout the State. The result not only of the Committee's efforts but of all who were involved is S.B.143. Let me tell you briefly what the bill would do. 1) Its goal is to encourage and enable towns to provide a minimum of \$5 per capita for public library service. 2) It proposes that the state share this cost in proportion to the financial ability of the town and the effort the town makes to use that ability for library service. 3) If a town provides for library service an amount equal to a one-half mill assessment on its grand list adjusted to 60% of fair market value, the State would contribute an amount equal to a quarter-mill assessment. 4) If such amounts do not provide \$5 per capita and the town makes available funds equal to an additional half mill assessment, the State would contribute any balance necessary to bring the library up to \$5 per capita. 5) The legislation is permissive or optional in its application, not mandatory. A town may decide to participate in the benefits of the proposed new law or continue receiving funds under the present state aid law. Since the bill's introduction, a number of amendments have been suggested to the State Library Committee. Such amendments would delay the free use of all public library facilities by any resident of the State about 2½ years provide grants for regional service, and delay the effective date

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Mr. Baldwin: of the application of standards. The State Library Committee recommends to you the adoption of these amendments together with a number of technical or grammatical changes. A list of the amendments and a sample substitute bill incorporating them is included with this statement. A number of other bills proposing state aid to public libraries is before your committee for hearing today. H.B. 2033, 3386, 3769, 4583 and 4681; S.B. 1585 and 1602. Except for H.B. 2033, which we oppose, all of them are worthy in their purpose but they offer mere grants of money without any relation to the actual need or cost of library service in a town or to the financial ability of a town to support library service. Any bill providing for grants, regardless of the size of the grant, that is not based on current costs of library service and which does not attempt to measure local financial ability and local effort will be unfair to those towns which need help. It will not be effective in improving library services in many towns, and therefore may be wasteful of public funds. The State Library Committee believes that passage of S.B. 143, particularly its principles of distribution whatever the level of funding decided on, would be a milestone of advancement of public library service in Connecticut commensurate with General Assembly action in other fields of education. I might say, at this point, that this bill as you know, from reading it, calls for a very very substantial appropriation, which the Governor was unable to include in his budget and I think I might say out of a few years of experience I can understand the situation. However, the ..as far as the appropriation is concerned, we wouldn't want to see this bill turned down because there isn't any money available. We would like to get it on the books if there isn't anything available to operate under this bill but we would rejoice if we could get it on the books with substantial funds to make it operative as we would like to have it operate. When this bill was first introduced it was widely circulated among the library associations and the association of library trustees and people interested in libraries throughout the State and as the result, several amendments were suggested; I might say about 3 weeks ago we held a public hearing, that is a public hearing for those interested in the bill, down in the Supreme Courtroom, The State Library Building across the road; we had a very sub-

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Mr. Baldwin:

stantial attendance, the hearing lasted all morning long; we had some very valuable suggestions concerning the bill and the proposed amendments to it and with that in view I have here a substitute bill which I would like to submit to the Committee and if you desire to have us do so we will make copies of it so copies will be available. If that could be sent back to us...may I leave that with you now? Essentially, these amendments would delay the free use of all public use facilities by any resident of this State for about 2½ years. In other words, we figure, if these grants were allowed, if this plan was to be put into operation any citizen in the State ought to have the right to use any library, where he might be able to find the material and ah that he needed for his particular interest. But that would impose a considerable burden on libraries and we thought it advisable to postpone the operation of that particular feature, for two and a half years. This amendment also would provide grant for regional service, and delay the effective date of the application of the standards which the bill allows the State Library Committee to adopt, as effecting library use and library responsibility and delay the effective application of the standards too. The State Library Committee recommends to you the adoption of these amendments together with a number of technical dramatical changes, or dramatical changes that are on a list that I will leave with you in connection with that bill. There are a number....I might say that in this substitute bill that we have offered here, these amendments have been incorporated, and where the material is a portion of an existing of an amendment to an existing piece of legislation, it's surrounded by parenthesis and where it isn't, a portion of an existing piece of legislation, it is also surrounded by parenthesis so you can, by looking thru the bill, determine what the amendments, where we proposed, both the major ones and those that dealt with technical and dramatical changes. There are a number of other bills proposing State Aid to Public Libraries and I am not going to read them off, there is quite a list. 2033 which we opposed; that bill is a step backwards, that is the reason we opposed that. It is not a step forward or maintaining your present position; except for that bill, all of

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Mr. R. Baldwin: them are worthy in their purpose but we would like to say that they offer mere grants of money without any relation to the actual need or the cost of library service in a town to the financial ability to a town to support library service. In other words, they perpetuate the existing system which, I think, is more or less of a hodge podge, and in many instances an unfair system. Any bill providing for grants regardless of the size of the grant. It is not based on current cost of library service in which does not attempt to measure local financial ability and local effort; and will be unfair to those towns which really need help and that's most all of the towns in the State. It will not be effective in improving library services in many towns and therefore they ultimately be wasteful in public funds. The State Library Committee believes that the passage of S.B. 143, particularly its principals of distribution, whatever level of funding decided upon. In other words if you can pass this legislation and give us, you know, just a half load to start, we could put it in operation. We would like the basket full that we are asking for. The State Library Committee as I say believes that the passage of S.B. 143 would be a milestone of advancement for public library service in Connecticut and commensurate with the action which the General Assembly has taken in other fields of education. Thank you very much.

Chm. Schaffer: I hope we can give you more than a thimble Justice Baldwin.

Rep. LaBrotta: Governor, I have no comment on the bill, purpose of the bill, but I think your basis of the grant on the real estate value of a community and I would like to speak to that because this is the basis of your distribution; you are dividing the number of people, dividing the total assessment of a community by the number of people, you've got the net taxable value per person, am I not correct in that?

Mr. R. Baldwin: No, well let me speak to that point in this way. We've given careful consideration and considerable study, so has the Connecticut Library Association to this, what would be proper places for measuring a town's ability to support a library; what would be the proper basis for doing it, and we finally decided, at least the library committee decided, that the assessed valuation represents the best

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- Mr. R. Baldwin: basis for the ability of a town to support not only libraries but anything else and, of course, in order to have this workable, you would have to have a situation where the proportion of the market value that was put into the taxable assessment list would have to be uniform throughout the State, say 60%. We would have to do that.....
- Rep. LaGrotta: But the basic point of making well by real-estate value, and I am speaking as a representative that represents agriculture communities, the very nature of their business, agriculture, makes it necessary that they own a substantial piece of real estate which is quite valuable and I will take another town where there are lawyers, maybe I should take doctors, who only own....
- Mr. R. Baldwin: Take lawyers, they've been taken a good many times....
- Rep. LaGrotta: In order to measure how much they can pay, the lawyer has to have a very small real estate investment; perhaps a pencil in his pocket and an office, and yet what you are preferring to do here is to say that by dividing the number of people into the real value of the community that the farmers who are not making any money can pay more than a community of lawyers who are making a lot more money but do not have to have much real estate. This is the basic, I think, in this kind of thinking because you hinge the whole thing on real estate and not on the real earning and the ability to pay. I just want to get this into the record..
- Mr. R. Baldwin: Let me answer you...take the lawyer, for example; most lawyers must have an office and if you are a lawyer in city of Hartford, for example, you want an office downtown by and large, most of the lawyers have offices downtown and I want to ask you if you have ever inquired what it costs to rent an office in one of the main office buildings in Hartford. It is a very very substantial figure and while it is true that it looks like a man with a farm of 300-400 acres is paying a lot because he has 300-400 acres, the lawyer, or the professional man, or the business man, or anybody else in the larger communities, who if he doesn't own his own place has to rent it; take the professional men who don't have large real-

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Mr. Baldwin: estate holdings ordinarily. They have to pay a very substantial amount in rent and there is where the money comes out of them to go into the tax list on this other basis. They may not pay it directly to the tax assessors, the farmer does, but they pay it to the real-estate owner. The office building owner and I might say that occasionally with a little additional percentage, before it gets into the hands of the tax collector.

Rep. LaGrotta: I think that's true Governor.....

Mr. Baldwin: So it seemed to us that the best, the fairest basis was this real estate basis but if the Committee can come up with a better formula we wouldn't quarrel with that at all.

Rep. LaGrotta: I think what your principle is, which is based generally on those that have the greatest needs should be assisted and I would go back to my original thought which would be the difference between earnings of farmers and lawyers.

Mr. Baldwin: I might say this...this isn't, this is perhaps an answer to another subject in the phase of the thing and yet it isn't. I think we recognize here, this Committee, and this Legislature is recognizing that in the fields of education there are tremendously new things; great possibilities of improving the gaining of knowledge, the examination of knowledge. Well those three things are happening in the library field too and we want to get the State and all of its community setup so that if and when funds are available to adopt these new.. that are going to make library information in one library available to a man and in the other corner of the State, very short notice, we have got to have a statewide coherent operating program, to begin with and there is...I earnestly hope and pray that you can see your way clear to adopt this legislation. Thank you.

Chm. Schaffer: Thank you very much. Are there other questions?

Any other question.

Mr. McQuire: My name is Lawrence McQuire, I represent the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents. I speak particularly to S.B. 654,

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Chm. Blake:

Questions of Mr. McGurre? Mr. Meredith Bloss.

Mr. M. Bloss:

Madam chairman, members of the Education Committee, I would like to speak on behalf of the Connecticut Library Association which I am a president of and in favor of a substantial increase in state grants-in-aid to local public libraries. I would like to say that the Association supports everything Judge Baldwin has said, he has made a very clear and comprehensive statement about S.B.143 which you have before you. In 1961, the Governor impresses with the need for improved library services to the State's Citizens, and at the request of the Connecticut Library Association, appointed a 54 member Governor's Committee on Libraries. That Committee studied the state's library services throughout 1962 and submitted a comprehensive report to the Governor in early 1963. The Committee found a great many things. To be true about libraries in Connecticut with only a few notable exceptions fail to meet even the minimum needs of our people. The neglect of the rural library as an instrument of education is statewide. Book collections are weak...The libraries are inadequately staffed with untrained personnel working for inadequate salaries. The need is to coordinate this library "hodge podge" and to meet the conditions created by a population which may reside in one town and work, shop or study in another. No metropolitan area library has an adequate collection of library materials. Staffs are too small with too few professionally trained librarians. In general, buildings are inadequate. 1961 Governor's Report had six major recommendations: The first, for a separate state library agency, was enacted into law in 1965, with the creation of the State Library Committee. The second, for an increased state share in the support of local libraries, is before the legislature now. Local library service needs increased state support. 1) For the same reason ~~that~~ other local educational services need tax help; the inability of the towns and cities to meet increasing demands, and 2) because library services are used by people on a regional basis without regard to place of

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Mr. M. Bloss:

residence or tax support. People go to the library that is most apt to meet their needs, whether it is the library of their town or not. A State Library survey of non-resident use of nine public libraries in December, 1966 showed that in the three largest city libraries, non-resident use was 30% to 50%. State support is the only feasible method of equalizing support for this service load. The Connecticut State Library reports that \$5.00 per capita is the minimum requirement for adequate local public library service. The State share should fill the gap between what the towns can do, which averages a little above \$3.00, and the cost of minimum adequate library service, which is \$5.00. The present State share of five cents per capita is inadequate and ineffective. The federal government is currently contributing seven times as much as the state towards the direct or indirect support of local public library services. Towns should be required to maintain present effort. The grants-in-aid formula should be fair and equitable, and based on local ability as well as need. S.B.143, "Payment of State Funds to Free Public Libraries", has been endorsed by the Executive Board of the Connecticut Library Association, contingent upon amendments recommended February 2, by the State Library Committee. S.B.1602. and identical bills H.B. 4583 and H.B. 4681 have not yet been considered officially by the C.L.A. H.B. 1602 has many desirable features. The amount and proportion of State support are reasonable. The maintenance of local effort is insured. Support for construction would fill a critical need, and be a counterpart to the federal concern for improved library services, which also provides construction funds. Planning for the improvement of library services for the people of Connecticut has been characterized by much planning and little action. There have been six surveys, reports and plans over the past twenty years. All have cited the need for the State to assume a larger share of responsibility for local public library service. Now for the first time proposals are before the legislature that would provide realistic state aid for public library service. These proposals would begin to place the State's responsibility for public libraries on a level with that of the support now being given schools and colleges. S.B.143 would provide a total

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Mr. M. Bloss: of eight million dollars in state biennial grants to public libraries, compared with 262 millions proposed for other education. The Governor's Committee on Libraries determined the need 5 years ago. This request for an increased state share of the support of local public libraries is a direct result of that determination. Your favorable action would be a tangible evidence of the State's commitment to a concern that was expressed with the appointment of the Governor's Committee in 1961. Thank you.

Chm. Blake: Thank you sir, any questions? Rep. Dunn.

Rep. B. Dunn: Have you much experience with combining a public library with a school building. (inaudible) a public library, we in Hartford, have a public library which is used by the general public, after school hours from 3 until say 8 or 9 o'clock, whenever it closes, have you had experience with this combination of the two facilities?

Mr. Bloss: We have one like that in New Haven.

Rep. Dunn: Have you any general comments that the trend toward this or is this something you would strongly urge to become more widespread inasmuch as you could combine, have, the use of reference material and have more books available for both purposes at one time or do you find that this doesn't work as well?

Mr. Bloss: I would have to speak not as the President of the Connecticut Library but as an employee of the city of New Haven if you wish to have me answer that question. The New Haven city policy is for the trend in this direction; we are now building three middle schools which will have combined public and school libraries. A library service without regard to but this is city policy and has no relation to the Connecticut Library Association.

Rep. Dunn: Do you find in your limited experience in this field that this going to be something that you would find advisable or do you find that this becomes cumbersome and that the difficulty that one would

- Mr. Bloss: Well, we have the limited experience of the one which has been in use for about six years and this experience has led the city administrative officials and the school board, library board, to consider, not only to consider but adopt the policy. We don't have, I can only speak from that limited experience.
- Rep. Dunn: Thank you.
- Chm. Blake: Mr. Stanley B. Carman.
- Mr. SB Carman: Honorable members of the Education Committee, my name is Stanley B. Carman of Milford. I have been Head Librarian of Taylor Library, Milford since the first of the year. I come to Connecticut from the Head Librarianship of Hibbing, Minnesota Public Library which I served in that capacity for eight years. Unlike many librarians appearing before you today, I am unable to speak with any great familiarity with any particular formula for State support of library service. My previous experience has been in mid-western states which have provided either token support or no support at all for public libraries. Therefore, my experience with support formulas has been minimal. At the same time one does not have to be in Connecticut very long, nor does one have to gain any considerable degree of sophistication in library finance to understand the provisions of introduced by the Hon. Mr. Davies of Milford at the behest of Mayor Alan Jepson of our city. This bill deals with not one but two major aspects of library finance: funding current operating budgets and funding construction of library facilities. The request for an increase from five cents per capita to twenty five cents per capita for State support retains the concept of a per capita basis, and affords a proportionately greater percentage of support for many similar, that is, smaller communities. At the same time the total cost is relatively very modest in comparison, for instance, with contributions from the State for elementary and secondary public education. The most significant feature of the bill in my mind is a

Mr. S.B. Carman: provision for the recognition on the part of the State of Connecticut of its responsibility to encourage and support the renewal of the often antiquated physical facilities of public libraries all over the state. As has been pointed out by the Honorable Alan Jepson, Mayor of Milford, the many demands for capital expenditure programs caused by the population explosion in many Connecticut communities has resulted in a serious problem in the assignment of priorities for the expenditure of rather limited funds in meeting these proliferating needs. Most often it is the federally and state supported project that first receives consideration. Unfortunately, in most communities public libraries for many years have a long history of being too near the bottom of the priority list. And it is for this reason that current needs for library construction are even more pressing. Generous support of library construction to the extent of payment of one half of the cost of planning, site acquisition and construction costs for library buildings could mark the beginning of a bold new chapter of public library development for our State. Funding of the construction part of this proposal would of course reflect the Legislature's understanding and evaluation of present and future needs. While the proposed legislation does not spell out administrative aspects of the control of the proposed expenditures, it would be both logical and fitting for me to recommend that the program be administered by the Connecticut State Library, already experienced in the administration of the expenditure of certain funds under the federal Library Services and Construction Act of 1965. In summary, Taylor Library, Milford, with its 1895 building, is a unfortunate but glaring example of the way in which adequate library service is hampered in many Connecticut communities today. We urge your favorable consideration of increased per capita support for State aid to public libraries, and particularly for generous support for library construction funds. Please support the bill now under consideration. Thank you.

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Chm. Blake:

Thank you. Miss Marie Richardson.

I am Marie Richardson from West Hartford, Connecticut and president of the Connecticut Valley Chapter of Special Libraries Association. I am speaking for the members of the Connecticut Valley Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, whose approximate 100 members represent various industries and institutions throughout the state. We are in favor of the objectives set forth in S.B. 143 and would like to go on record as endorsing this bill. Thank you.

Chm. Blake:

Mr. Wake, I'm having a problem with the writing here.

Mr. H. Wake:

I'm having a problem with my first name too. For the record it is Hereward, it was given to me when I was too young to object. I am here today as President of the Association of Library Boards which is a voluntary association with the present membership of 70 members from the very largest in the State to the very small in the rural communities. It is a voluntary group and our sole basis for existence is to improve library services in Connecticut. I would like to say for the record that the question was very carefully discussed and at least two meetings I attended on the basis of population and assessment and the population, we did not want to adopt, because the census is taken every ten years and we went into it very thoroughly and we agreed it should be on the basis of assessment. Assessed value mixed up, on the basis of 60% assessment. I am speaking in favor of S.B.143 the time element has made it impossible for our association to hold a special meeting but each member has been circularized that.. and there is not one library that has said that it would not support S.B.143. All of them, especially the three largest in the State, Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, are enthusiastic about it. There are at least trustees from Fairfield, Hartford, I believe, Windsor, all here today voluntarily to speak in favor of S.B.143 and I can't say anything except that it was hammered out and the amendments were hammered out at a meeting of January 19th at the Supreme Court Building and

Mr. H. Wake: the amendments have actually made the bill in my opinion and they were very graciously accepted by the State Library Committee and the State Librarian. Let me stress our association is composed solely of Library Trustees. By our Certificate of Incorporation, our purposes are: "To work actively for the development and improvement of library services; to exchange information among members of the governing boards of libraries; and to provide the best facilities possible for reading by citizens of the State of Connecticut." We are the stewards of our libraries. Our libraries combines comprise a fine and in some cases the only available graduate school. No trustee can have any ulterior motive or axe to grind in connection with libraries. It is submitted that S.B. 143 as amended, should be reported favorably and should be passed. Thank you.

Chm. Blake: Miss Hook.

Mrs. A. Hook: Mr. chairman, members of the Committee, my name is Alexis Hook and I am speaking on behalf of the Parent-Teachers Association of Connecticut, Inc. We wish to speak in favor of S.B. 654 and S.B. 657. The PTA believes in the need for the constant strengthening and improving of our school library system, especially in view of the fact that we do not even meet the 1960 standards of the A.L.A. nor the recommended standards of the Connecticut Board of Education. Library service should be available to everyone and we note that these bills are optional and not mandatory. We also note with interest H.B. 2705 and hope the committee will give it serious consideration. Thank you.

Chm. Blake: Mr. John P. McDonald.

Mr. McDonald: Mr. Blake, members of the Education Committee, my name is John McDonald, Storrs, Connecticut, director of the Library of the University of Connecticut; very pleased to see this very fine picture of it gracing this chamber. I am chairman of the college and university section of the Connecticut Library Association speaking for the college and university section I wish to say that academic librarians are completely in sympathy with the principle purpose

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- Mr. McDonald: of S.B. 143, which would provide increased support of public libraries. Connecticut, today, as indeed the country as a whole, more and more we are coming to understand that at its best education is a life long process. We work, we who work in formal education, college and university level, believe that we are turning out increasing number of persons who view their collegiate experience as a beginning rather than an end. These people who aspire to a higher level of knowledge than their formal schooling provides, need and deserve a wider range of cultural and information resources that are now available. Such services can best be provided and that, and at relatively modest cost, by strengthening local public libraries. We in academic libraries join with our colleges in the public libraries in seeking new and approved level of support for public libraries as prescribed in S.B. 143. Thank you.
- Chm. Blake: Thank you sir. Any questions of Mr. McDonald?
Rep. Dunn.
- Rep. Dunn: Would you come under....inaudible.....
- Mr. McDonald: We would not in any way benefit except that libraries are related one to another. It's a symbiotic relationship if you will, the stronger the public library the better it is for the academic library and vice versa. But we do not directly benefit from this bill nor does any library at higher education as far as I can determine.
- Rep. Dunn: Have you any estimate of how much your library is used by these people living in Storrs who are not connected with any university.. is your library used much by others than the students and the faculty?
- Mr. McDonald: Well as you know, Storrs consists very largely of the university family and as a consequence the great bulk of the use of the University library is by the faculty and the students. The library is open to any citizen in the State for reference purposes but we intentionally

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Mr. McDonald: limit circulation from the university library to the immediate university family. We do this in part so as not to allow the University Library to be a substitute for an adequate public library or for an adequate school library. I think we are criticized for this but I am personally convinced that this is the right course. We need good school libraries, we need good university, that is, we need good public libraries as well as a good University Library.

Chm. Blake: Any further question. Thank you sir.
Mr. E. Jackson.

Mr. Jackson: Mr. Chairman, members of the Education Committee, my name is Edwin Jackson. I am librarian of the Hartford Public Library. Those of you who were in the 1965 General Assembly may remember me as Chairman of the Governor's Committee on Library Improvement. I am speaking in support of S.B. 143, Payment of State Funds to Free Public Libraries, including amendments adopted by the State Library Committee. The lack of local support for public libraries in Connecticut makes it increasingly evident that the State must assume more support for library service on the local level. In its statistical report for 1965, the latest available, the State Library reports that the average per capita expenditure for library operations was \$3.32. This bill would provide \$5.00 per capita, the minimum funds with which minimum library service can be provided. The average of \$3.32 was made up of libraries spending 30¢ per capita in some cases to almost \$9 per capita in other cases. Of the 184 libraries for which a per capita expenditure was computed, 113 (61%) were below the average. Of the 184 libraries mentioned above, only 11 (6% of the total) expended \$5.00 or more per capita. Using 1960 census figures, 154,330 persons were served by these libraries. So, only 6.1% of our Connecticut population of 2,535,000 residents have minimum support or better library service. Not an impressive record. On the other hand, let us look at what is happening in education in the state. There is substantial state support for elementary and secondary education, and there will probably be a higher rate of support in the future. I

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Mr. Jackson:

understand from the newspapers that we cannot expect to have a state institution of higher learning offering programs through a doctorate degree in every town in the state. However, we certainly will have community colleges providing two year and four year programs as well as graduate programs available conveniently to all residents of the state in the not-too-distant future. Where are our educated people to look for library service? To the library receiving 30¢ or 50¢ or even \$1.50 per capita per year? If their education "takes" even a little bit, they will find these library resources completely inadequate. And where will our students in the newly developing and expanding schools and colleges find the library resources they must have to pursue their courses of study? Our present poorly supported and inadequate public libraries, common to most of our cities and towns, will not give them much help, and they are already using public libraries heavily because of inadequacies in the libraries in their schools and colleges. But we have discussed only the educationally advantaged thus far. There are the disadvantaged to consider also. The 1965 General Assembly passed an Act Concerning State Aid for Disadvantaged Children. As I remember, a substantial amount of state funds was appropriated in support of this Act. Serious consideration needs to be given to the provision of adequate library services to the disadvantaged group. This is especially true in our larger cities where most of our disadvantaged live. Because of inadequate local support no special efforts to bring library service tailored to the needs of the disadvantaged is possible. Special services to the disadvantaged should be more than a local responsibility and needs to be supported by state aid. S.B. 143, while not a cure-all for our public library problems in Connecticut, certainly will be a big step in the right direction in doing something about these problems. I urge that the Act, as amended by the State Library Committee, receive your favorable action. Thank you.

Chm. Blake:

Any questions of Mr. Jackson?

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Rep. Dunn:

Have you any idea, any estimate of how much your library is used by people other than the residents of the city of Hartford...is it widely used by others?

Mr. Jackson:

In December, a 2 week survey was made of the use of Hartford Public Library, by adults not children, and only in the main library. It was determined, at that time, approximately 50% of the use made by people in person, and by telephone, was not resident use.

Rep. Dunn:

When you speak of adults do you mean those over 21 or those...

Mr. Jackson:

I mean those who are in highschool or above. 9th grade or up.

Rep. B. Dunn:

I know that you do have, use to have at least, a service whereby one could have a membership card for outside use. How much is that card?

Mr. Jackson:

\$6.00 a year.

Rep. Dunn:

Have you many people who use this service?

Mr. Jackson:

I forget the figure now but my recollection is that between 12 - 1500 people who have these non-resident cards at the present time.

Rep. Dunn:

Would you anticipate with a greater amount being given to a library by the State that you should encourage more use by people outside as long as you would have the greater amount of funds?

Mr. Jackson:

Well part of the bill, which is before you, S.B.143, provides in due course for "open access" to the libraries of the State.

Rep. Dunn:

Would this cause you a great deal of difficulty; would it overstrain your facilities, do you think, would you have difficulty with this?

Mr. Jackson:

As of this moment, yes.

Rep. Dunn:

In other words you would have to provide for capitol improvement to

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- Mr. Jackson: Not only capitol improvement but staff improvements and materials improvements also.
- Rep. B.Dunn: Do you think the amount of money here would compensate for that?
- Mr. Jackson: Well, as I said, it is a step in the right direction. We don't know how much use we would get, how much additional use from non-residents so we cannot predict at this time how much money we would actually need to serve these people.
- Rep. Dunn: Thank you.
- Chm. Blake: Rep. Mansfield.
- Rep. Mansfield: Representative Mansfield, 142nd. Do you think the sum of \$6.00 covers the service that you give or was that just a fee set perhaps years ago, and still carried.
- Mr. Jackson: It is a fee that was set approximately about 5 years ago and I think now is out of date because support for the Hartford Public Library has continued to go up thru the years; I think this fee should be higher at this time if you are going to be realistic about charging non-residents for the services. I would also add too that these non-resident cards are great commonly used as family cards rather than individual cards and if you consider them a family card you would have to set the fee of \$15 - \$25.
- Chm. Blake: Thank you sir. I would ask the indulgence of the hearing to call out of order a man with pressing responsibilities, Mayor John DiNicola of Hamden.
- MayorDiNicola: Thank you. I'm here to speak in favor of bill 836. This bill has been discussed very very thoroughly within our chambers of our Conference of Mayors and I note also that Mrs. Schaffer has a bill which recognizes the, I'm speaking of bill 657, which recognizes the similiar problem. There is a little difference between the two bills but there is one problem that we are all interested in and I am sure that everyone else in this room is also interested in and this is the problem of

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Mrs. E. Fast: library development and I think that this is significant too. Now, the, even if we are encouraged for communities in Connecticut to use funds for the disadvantaged for school library development, it still would not help the rural community; it will be helped by S.B. 654. because the allotment of funds to these communities is so small that they would still not be able to employ full time library personnel and for this reason I am in full support of this bill. I feel that there is no reason why these children should not have an equal educational opportunity with the children from our larger towns and cities and I know that the people in these communities have come to the demonstration library and have spoken to me in my PTA position are very interested in good school library programs for their children. I would also like to speak very briefly in favor of S.B. 657 which would increase the State allotment for school library books; this is very necessary, the cost of books have increased greatly and the need for them has gone up. Now under federal legislation we are receiving a considerable amount for school libraries and under this legislation too, are local community cannot reduce its local appropriation for books and materials. However, there is no incentive for it to raise it either and this bill would provide the necessary incentive. I think that one thing about the bill that is good is that it will provide to small schools and to large schools amount of money and I do feel that the small schools do need to have large library facility for the youngster, however, I also feel that Representative Mondani's bill, H.B. 3032 is a very good bill and would certainly benefit our school libraries. In conclusion, I would also like to register in favor in S.B. 143, the public library bill, because I feel very strongly that school and public libraries do not compete with one another; that they are inter-related and both are necessary. I have served on the Connecticut Library Association Legislative Committee which has considered this bill and I do feel that it too is important. However, I would like to disagree with Meredith Block and say that across the country that the experience of combining schools with public libraries has not been beneficial to the school or public library; there is material in print

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Mrs. E. Fast: about this which I would be happy to send you, published by the American Library Association and that this kind of service seems to find very poor library service and equally poor public library service where it has been tried. Although the two kinds of libraries should cooperate and work together, they have slightly different aims and certainly different ways of accomplishing their purposes. The school library is a laboratory for the school; it is a learning laboratory; it needs to have personnel who are trained as teachers as our school library teachers are in Connecticut as well as trained as librarians. Only in this way can it provide the best service for the youngsters of Connecticut. Thank you.

Chm. Blake: Are there any questions? Representative Dunn.

Rep. Dunn: Representative Dunn of the Committee. As long as there is a difference, and I did bring up the matter before, using, combining the town library and the school library. If there is a different staff that would come on at the end of the school day; let's say that school closes at three and you allow a half hour, say 3:30 for the youngsters to use it before they go home and the public would then be able to use the library from 3:30 until, say 9:00 P.M. would you still have the same objection or does the system still, in your experience, not work?

Mrs. Fast: I would like to say that in this case the library is not able to serve the public during the school day and this is an important part of the public library's job. It serves the child from the time he is born, practically, and until he becomes the golden ager and it is unable to serve this clientele. Both the preschool child and the adult and the senior citizens during the school day which may in many cases be the most convenient time for these people to use the library so in this respect it does not serve. I think we need great cooperation between the two kinds of libraries but I certainly feel that Connecticut is a wealthy enough state to provide adequate support for both kinds of libraries and both the school and the library suffer when you try to combine the two under roof, even if you have separate staff, which I feel would be partially....

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Mrs. E. Fast: answer some of the problems.

Rep. Dunn: Well, one more question along this same line. We do have this set-up in my town and this library is used just after school hours but would it be different if there were a main library and others, and this was used as one branch; would you do this as a supplement .. would it be of value to have that much more material available as a supplement if it was thought of in that sense instead of using it in lieu of something else?

Mrs. Fast: Yes, I do understand your question. I think still I could have to say even in that case I don't *feel* it would adequately function and it has been the experience in many communities and it does not. The clientele of the libraries then tends to be only the youngsters, primarily the youngsters that attend that school. The youngsters from other schools, even though they may reside within the area where they could use the library, do not use it and the general adult use is generally lessened because they think of it as a school library instead of a public library.

Rep. Dunn: And there would be justification, no justification in keeping it open under those circumstances because of an additional use by the children of their own school library....

Mrs. Fast: Oh I think it is very valuable to have the school library open after school hours and into the evening. I think that when we can get enough personnel to make this feasible that this is going to be a definite heart of the education program; that the school doors will not close when school let out and that the children will remain or come back to use the school library and again at the public library too, you instead of really making it more accessible to the youngsters, you're hindering adult use of it or other people's use of it during these hours and I really feel, except possibly in the very, very small communities that was quite isolated, that the combination does not really work; and I can back this up with information across the nation.

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Rep. Dunn: Well we in East Hartford don't feel very isolated.

Mrs. Fast: No, no you're not but...

Sen. Hammer: May I ask a question?

Chm. Blake: Yes. Sen. Hammer.

Sen. Hammer: Lucy Hammer, 12th district. This bill you spoke of, in support of 143, what is it that you support in this bill, the amount of money; have you, I mean do you support this section one, method of ascertaining of allocating the amount of funds; I don't want to go into it in great detail but I was interested that you mentioned 143 and wondered why.

Well, I mentioned 143 primarily because I have a great background of interest in both school and public libraries, I am a former public library trustee among other things but I also feel that we have a relatively, if you look at the whole State, a poor public library system in our State, in fact you can't even call it a system yet. But a poor provision of public library services in our State and I feel that this bill for a similar provision would be a step toward providing adequate public library services. Now as far as allocation of money and the way in which it is determined, I feel quite strongly that allocation of funds should be on somewhat of a basis that takes into account the towns ability to pay; I come from one of the towns that is not among the wealthy towns of the State and our federal funds to the contrary are not withstanding; we are not one of the wealthy towns in the State and I think for this reason it is important to take into consideration the town's ability to pay in determining State funds that will go to it and I think it is impossible to have some kind of means of determining it exactly. This proposal comes as close to it as one can in a feasible way, figure it out. Now as far as the amount is concerned, I would hope that this would only be a beginning because as we have better library services for our students in schools and our adults in public libraries

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Mrs. Fast (cont'd) we are going to find an increasing demand for library services. This is another reason why the two don't compete; in the schools we make readers of children and then they go out and read.

Sen. Hammer: This is fine, thank you very much, you've answered my question.

Rep. Mansfield: Do you have any fear that perhaps some of the larger cities, which seem to provide library service for surrounding towns, might because of getting more State aid than they normally would for their own library, spend less.

Mrs. Fast: They are not allowed to under the provisions of the bill because there is a statement in there that would not allow them to reduce the appropriation that they are currently making. I also feel that the fear of the big cities that they will be inundated with people may not come about because if we can build up better libraries in each community they may find that they may have actually fewer people running to them for things.

Rep. Mansfield: They are being inundated now.

Mrs. Fast: Yes, they are, they are being very definitely being... the survey did show that there are many many people from outside of the big cities using the big city libraries but that may be in large part because of their own local community libraries are so inadequate.

Rep. Mansfield: But what I fear is that the communities that have spent nothing for library service will make out better in the long run than those that have been providing library service.

Mrs. Fast: Oh no, I don't think so, I really don't, I think a community can be proud it has a good public library, it's had that service for all those years for its citizens and this is something to be proud of too.

Chm. Blake: Other questions? Dorothy Weiss.

Mrs. Weiss: I am Dorothy Weiss, President of the Connecticut School Library Association and to follow one

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Mr. D.Engley:encouragement of a life time of continuing education. Thank you very much.

Chm.Blake: Are there any questions of Mr. Engley?

Sen. Hammer:Lucy Hammer, 12th, this bill I talk about concerns me somewhat. The State Librarie's Bill which suggests an equalized grand list, 143, did you have a hand in preparing...do you go along with Section one of that bill and that method of getting after...

Mr. Engley: Yes, we have covered this very thoroughly in the State Library Committee. The State Library administration has knowledge of other systems throughout the country; this is in our best judgment what is best fit for the State of Connecticut.

Sen. Hammer: Thank you.

Chm. Blake: Mr. Douglas Fellows:

Mr.Fellows: Douglas Fellows of Hebron. Mr. Chairman, members of the Library Committee, I think perhaps my particular area of interest in libraries may serve to point up why libraries are so important, to the State. I appear here in several capacities; I am the Chairman of Technical Education (inaudible), the Administrative Director of the Ward Technical Institute, Consultant on the Library Building Committee from the University of Hartford, a member of the Research Committee, that is, Library Research Committee, and appearing also as Chairman of the Education Committee for the State Chamber of Commerce. From three to five A.M. I am also a private citizen. Basically, I am speaking in favor of bill ¹⁴³ ~~413~~. Some of ... Senator Hammer has shown some concern about the equalized grand list concept and this has been something of which we have fought in past Legislature Sessions of trying to evolve a principle that would be equal to all in the way of opportunity. All too often we tend to favor one segment of our society in favor of another and this seems to overcome much of the difficulty. The need for libraries, perhaps, can be expressed very simply as stating every decade our technical information doubles. If I were to spend a ten hour day five days a week, it would take me 5,000 years to read the information which

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Mr. Fellows: would be made available in this coming year. This shows how important it is to provide an integrated library system; not serving communities but serving people. I think this is the basis on all library systems should be developed. The Honorable representative Dunn suggested some interest regarding the public library and the school library and I think this is extremely important; after all the greatest bulk of our information comes from the written word whether it be from a school system or in the many many years following in our public life. The work of a library is not simply providing reading material but it is to provide the opportunity for individuals to do research and retrieve the information that others have possible for them. Thank you.

Chm. Blake: Are there questions?

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, I am Emeyln Trimble of the Public Library in Waterbury. I am librarian, and speaking in support of S.B. 143. This bill is in support of substantial increase in State support of public libraries designed to strengthen and improve library service for every town in Connecticut. This bill, it has been stated, has the support of the librarians in Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven, the three largest cities in Connecticut and I am here to state that it is supported by the fourth largest city in Connecticut. It has been said that the U.S. office of Education; the minimum standard as of 1965, the minimum standard of library support, \$4.47. The State Library Committee now states that \$5.00 represents minimum percapita support for Connecticut and the northeastern parts of the United States. Perhaps the Connecticut average, present average, I believe this is is \$3.32. I might point up the ah, the inadequate support of one, the fourth largest city in Connecticut. In 1966, \$2.62 per capita; this is \$.70 below the State average and very much more below the national average. Waterbury is the largest city in the so designated central Naugatuck region which is comprised of many smaller towns, many of them small manufacturing towns, and for

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Mrs. Trimble: the most part, none of them very well be (inaudible) towns. It has been said that education has priority today and if this is so, and I am sure it is, then surely libraries are essential to the educational and the written word still basic to learning today. Today, our libraries get greater use than any time in the past; they are used for study and research by the smaller child in elementary schools. The numbers of high-school teachers who are using public libraries today is absolutely fantastic. The number of college and university students, graduate students and people engaged in continuing education. We ask your favorable action of S.B. 143 which would not only give increased support but, for public libraries, but would provide the necessary incentive for towns and cities to increase their support.

Chm. Blake: Thank you. Rep. Dunn.

Rep. Dunn: Do you find that your library is used extensively by people from surrounding communities?

Mrs. Trimble: It is used to an extent as the towns around Waterbury, for the most part, except the small industrial towns, the more rural areas have a very small libraries that are open only a certain hours during the day and people do come to take out books on the non-resident basis but they use the open library for reference, etc.

Rep. Dunn: Do you charge a fee for this?

Mrs. Trimble: We do for non-residents. \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for...we like to break this down by the number of days the library is open; it works out at 2¢ for adults and 1¢ a day for children.

Chm. Blake: Any further questions? Thank you. Are there other people who wish to testify? Please come forward.

Mr. Cabana: My name is Robert Cabana and I am here on behalf of Mayor Shaunesey, East Hartford, administrative assistant, and I am here to support Rep. Hannon's bill, 3921. I think enough has been said this morning. I would like to make two points; one, if the bill is adopted for submission by Conference Conference of Mayors,

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Mr. Milmone: \$9,000 came from invested funds; about 1/5th or 1/6th contributions made by the town; the rest, of course, is made up in donations. Our problem, as you might guess as I am the treasurer, is largely financial. With the cost of the library going up, in terms of salaries, we are hiring another librarian and things of that sort; at the same time, of course, the expenses have gone up and at the same time our income is being cut a bit, largely I think because of the death or moving away of members of the Scoville family who have in the past years have been very generous to the library. We get a number of gifts now but a good many of them are for city purposes, say the purchase of certain books, well that doesn't help us out very much. As I say I am treasurer and if we could pass S.B. 143 I am sure it would do a great deal to relieve our almost bankrupt condition. Thank you.

Rep. Dunn: May I ask you a question Mr. Milmone.. I don't know if it should be directed to the town of Salisbury or to the writer of the bill. (inaudible) that there are libraries.....would they be penalized or would this not be...

Chm. Blake: The gentleman in the front row.

Mr. Chairman Mr. Bob is here, our State Librarian is here and he has technical knowledge of this and any questions that you might want to ask him; I think we have the best library in the United States and...(inaudible - gentleman was not at microphone).

Chm. Blake: Any further questions of Mr. Milmone? If not, I declare the hearing closed. Thank you for your patience and attention.