

Governor Bill Lee  
State Capitol, 1st Floor  
600 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Governor Lee:

On behalf of school librarians in Tennessee and the Tennessee Association of School Librarians, I am urging you to **appoint a State Coordinator of School Library Services to the Department of Education**. School librarians are not currently represented in the Department of Education. This is an important voice missing from our esteemed educational leadership, as school librarians support all aspects of the curriculum, and all students and all faculty in their schools with access to print and digital resources. School librarians bring a diverse skill set with curriculum knowledge, reading support, and technological skill to their schools. The appointment of a State Coordinator will help to ensure that school library media specialists and their respective districts receive leadership, advocacy, and advisory services pertinent to their needs at the state level. Strong libraries equal strong schools, which equal strong students and school communities. As you prepare your budget for Fiscal Year 2020, please include funding for a State Coordinator of School Library Services.

I ask you to provide funding for this investment for Fiscal Year 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,