

TOWN OF BARRINGTON, RI

RESOLUTION

In Support of Legislation Restoring Funding for the State Aid to Libraries to the Full 25 Percent

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF BARRINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS: for many people, public libraries are their only means of access to books, computer services, technology training, and all forms of media essential for fulfilling and productive lives; and

WHEREAS: Free public libraries are essential to the general enlightenment of citizens in a democracy and provide for the cultural, educational, informational, and research needs of all citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the State of Rhode Island at Article XII, Section 1 states that it "shall be the duty of the General Assembly to promote public schools and public libraries, and to adopt all means which it deems necessary and proper to secure to the people the advantages and opportunities of education and public library services"; and

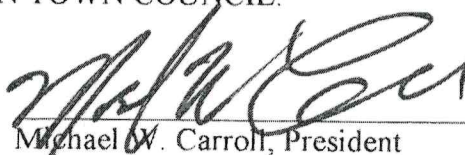
WHEREAS: in recognition of the importance of libraries in our society, the Rhode Island General Assembly has set the level of state aid for library services at a minimum of twenty-five (25%) of amount spent from local tax funds and a library's private endowment; and

WHEREAS: the Governor's proposed FY 2023 budget funds state aid to libraries at 22.38%, which is **\$34315** less than the Town of Barrington would receive at the required 25% level; and

WHEREAS: the Town of Barrington, Rhode Island supports fully funding State Aid to Libraries at the 25% level in FY 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BARRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL, AS FOLLOWS: THAT THE BARRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL AT THE REQUEST OF THE BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, DOES HEREBY SUPPORT LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD RESTORE FUNDING FOR STATE AID TO LIBRARIES TO THE FULL 25% REQUIRED IN RI GENERAL LAWS SECTION 29-6-2 (a) AND URGES THE BARRINGTON DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO WORK DILIGENTLY FOR ITS PASSAGE.

THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS PASSAGE BY THE BARRINGTON TOWN COUNCIL.



Michael W. Carroll, President
Barrington Town Council

