

Sample Letter 1

Augustus Sloop
11 Pail of Water Ave.
Small Village, NY
Date

The Honorable Thomas W. Libous
New York State Senate
1607 State Office Bldg.
44 Hawley St.
Binghamton, NY 13901

Dear Senator Libous,

As a library user and registered voter, I am writing to urge you to support the New York Library Association's goal of more State funding for New York's libraries.

[Write in this paragraph how you personally use the library; why it is important to you.]

The issue of state aid to libraries is a priority and will be important to me when evaluating candidates for the next election.

The new century brings challenges to our public libraries. State funding has not kept pace, and local budgets are stretched to their limits. New York needs to make a statewide investment in our libraries. Please help restore New York as a library leader among the states.

Sincerely yours,

Augustus Sloop

Sample Letter 2

Alice O. Shoe
In-Town Day Care
23 Give a Dog A Bone La.
Small Village, NY 09876
Date

The Honorable Barbara S. Lifton
New York State Assembly
106 E. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

Dear Assemblywoman Lifton,

I run a small day care business, taking on approximately 20 children with three staff members and myself, in my hometown of Small Village. I am a constant user of our local public library. I regularly borrow a collection of children's picture books for a month long loan which are used by my staff to read to our little day care citizens. I believe that reading is essential to the healthy growth of children. We also go, with all the children, to the weekly story time presented at our library. It gives our kids a chance for a field trip out as well as hearing a different story reader and a chance to try a new craft.

There is one particular incident I would like to share with you to illustrate the importance of our library to me. I borrowed a "Children's CPR" video to use as part of a day- long training for my staff. Approximately one month later, one of the children was choking on a small piece of cookie and our staff member was able to perform an appropriate version of the Heimlich maneuver and truly saved that child's life. The maneuver was one of the things she learned from that library video.

I am aware that state funding provides better services for me through my local library. The library is a resource I could not do without. Please continue to support an increase in funding for our libraries.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Alice O. Shoe