

CT State Library | Ambassadors 2025

Talking Points and Template Letter

Below are a set of talking points and a template letter for Ambassadors to use and customize in demonstrating their support of the CT State Library to stakeholders, communities, and elected officials.

Talking Points

- The CT State Library is the mechanism that enables library funding, resources, and services to equitably reach all CT communities.
- There are more public libraries in our small state of Connecticut than there are municipalities – 190 public libraries to 169 cities and towns!
- The state funding required to cover the currently federally funded state statutory programs of the CT State Library, is minimal – less than \$2 million. Yet the significant ripple effect of this socially impactful return on investment is huge.
- The State Library is a socially impactful ROI that has the capability to support our CT communities in the face of many potential eliminations and reductions in social services, education, and other sectors that provide for all CT residents.
- The Division of Library Development within the CT State Library was established in 1965.
- Through the CT State Library CT residents:
 - Are able to access the books they want.
 - Are able to access ebooks and audiobooks for free.
 - Are able to access free reliable internet through their public libraries.
 - With disabilities are able to access books in the format of their choice.
 - Participate in summer reading programs at their public libraries.
- Through the CT State Library school, public, and academic libraries from across the state can:

- o Borrow book discussion sets for classroom reads and discussion groups.
- o Borrow storytime props to increase engagement and early literacy education.
- o Borrow books to supplement collection shrinkages due to budget reductions.
- o Borrow thematic book bundles to support educational curriculum.
- o Access free, high-impact professional development opportunities.

Template Letter

Recommendations

- Please use these templates as a suggested guide and edit and revise language to match your individual or organizational voice.
- If representing an organization, consider using letterhead to submit this written testimony.

Letter

My name is [Name]. I am a resident of [Town] and I am the [Title/Role] of the [Organization Name].

I am writing to express my support of the Connecticut State Library, the state agency that houses the State Archives, the Office of the Public Records Administrator, the Museum of Connecticut History, three reference departments (history and genealogy; law and legislation; and government information), the Division of Library Development, and the Connecticut Library for Accessible Books. Collectively, these agency divisions provide statewide services to all CT public libraries and communities.

As Connecticut faces the risk of budget and service reductions, the minimal investment in the CT State Library to replace federal funds covering state statutory programs – less than \$2 million – will have a significant socially impactful ROI that will have a ripple effect touching all public libraries and municipalities.

[Include a connection with the CT State Library, whether a direct personal story or experience or a way that the State Library supports or connects to your organization, a local public library, or community.]

[Integrate a selection of talking points that feel most relevant and important.]

As shared, I strongly support the CT State Library. I appreciate the Education and Appropriations Committees, and Connecticut lawmakers taking a moment to read and listen to my perspective as a constituent and resident who deeply values the services and roles of the State Library.

Together, we hope to ensure that library services remain statewide, inclusive, and accessible for all families, students, and individuals.

Thank you for your time and consideration.