



THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
REPRESENTATIVE KATE HOGAN  
THIRD MIDDLESEX DISTRICT  
STATE HOUSE, ROOM 130, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133-1053

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:**

Kelsey Schiller

Communications Director

Office of Representative Kate Hogan

617-722-2130

[kelsey.schiller@mahouse.gov](mailto:kelsey.schiller@mahouse.gov)

### **Rep. Hogan advocates for our Public Libraries in Budget**



(Pictured above: Representative Kate Hogan giving a pep talk to first-time advocates at Library Legislative Day at the State House)

Representative Kate Hogan, Chair of the legislature's Library Caucus and a lifelong advocate for the Commonwealth's public library system, worked closely with her colleagues to secure funding for public libraries and important literacy programs in the FY17 state budget.

Rep. Hogan successfully sponsored amendments to the state budget to increase funding for:

- **State Aid to Public Libraries:** This funding helps public libraries meet the needs of local residents, including keeping libraries open longer, purchasing computers, and running homework centers and job-search workshops.
- **Massachusetts Center for the Book (MCB):** MCB sponsors programming that expands our circle of readers and that deepens our understanding of and appreciation for the past, present, and future of the book and of book arts in Massachusetts; it emphasizes the central role libraries play in civic and cultural life.

- **George Fingold Library:** More commonly referred to as the “State Library of Massachusetts,” the George Fingold Library supports the research and information needs of our government, libraries, and residents by providing innovative services and access to a comprehensive repository of state documents and other historical items.

Additionally, Rep. Hogan co-sponsored amendments to increase funding for Regional Libraries Local Aid and Library Technology and Resource Sharing.

After Governor Baker vetoed funding for State Aid to Public Libraries, Regional Libraries Local Aid, and Massachusetts Center for the Book, Rep. Hogan successfully rallied support among her colleagues in the legislature to override the Governor’s vetoes and restore funding to those programs.

In her role as Chair of the Library Caucus Rep. Hogan has attended several events over the past year at which she spoke with public library advocates and encouraged them to continue fighting for library funding. Some of these events include Letters About Literature, a contest sponsored by MCB that invites young readers to write letters to authors of books that have had an impact on them; Library Legislative Day, an annual opportunity for librarians, trustees, and school officials to speak with legislators at the State House about the importance of libraries; and the New England Library Advocacy Summit, an event for library representatives around New England who are interested in learning and sharing information about library advocacy.

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