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Middlebury High School Librarian

April 17, 2023

I am the School Librarian at Middlebury High School and the Advocacy Co-Chair for the Vermont School Library Association (VSLA). Last school year (2021-2022), the VSLA Advocacy and Intellectual Freedom committees worked with the Vermont School Board Association (VSBA) to develop an updated model Selection of Library Materials Policy which you can read [here](#):

https://www.vtvsba.org/files/ugd/b44bfd_08b5bcd1684c41eea1c23f7eb6126302.pdf

VSBA also agreed to move the Selection of Library Materials policy from the "To be Considered" category to the "Recommended" category. However, we feel the policy belongs in the "Required" category, which we understand must refer to legislation. VSBA also provides model *policies*, not model *procedures*. We asked that the Model policy state that library collection, selection and reconsideration procedures adhere to the American Library Association Library Bill of Rights and intellectual freedom documents. VSBA did not agree to include this and it was suggested that Vermont libraries formally adopt a statement that Vermont libraries are guided by the American Library Association.

I would like to see Vermont legislation that includes language, such as the following, enacted to protect our students' access to information and their right to read.

All libraries in Vermont including public, school, academic, and special libraries, will have a library collection development policy that includes selection of materials and reconsideration of materials procedures. These policies and procedures will adhere to the American Library Association intellectual freedom documents, including the Library Bill of Rights.

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