

Niharika Kayal
Rochester, Vermont resident

April 5, 2023

To State Librarian Catherine Delneo,

I am writing to provide testimony on the subject of removing physical books from college libraries. There are of course numerous points to consider; and, I would like to comment on the point that there is value in stocking physical books at libraries in ways that an online-only catalog lacks.

Moving to a digital-only space reduces the ability for visitors to browse content. When I visit a library, I will often look through the shelves, pick up a few books, and look through their pages and maybe read them while at the library or maybe check some of them out. This is especially key in the context of image-heavy books--art books, for example. If I only have a digital library, I have to check out each book I am interested in to even read or view a few pages. This reduces the accessibility of content.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Niharika Kayal