**RESOLUTION**

To thank the Ohio Senate for increasing the Public Library Fund (PLF) to 1.7% of the total General Revenue Fund (GRF) in House Bill (HB) 166 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and to urge the Ohio House of Representatives and the Governor to maintain the provision in the final bill.

WHEREAS, Ohio’s public libraries currently serve more than 8.4 million cardholders; and

WHEREAS, Ohio’s public libraries have the highest use per capita in the nation; and

WHEREAS, state funding for public libraries through the Public Library Fund ensures all Ohioans have access to a minimum level of services statewide, regardless of their zip code; and

WHEREAS, Public libraries provide public access to the Internet, computers, and the latest technology; and

WHEREAS, Public libraries help Ohioans find jobs, offer literacy and homework help centers, and provide life-long learning opportunities and programming for all ages; and

WHEREAS, State funding for public libraries has been cut by more than $113 million since 2001 resulting in a 23% loss in funding; and

WHEREAS, The [insert library name] currently receives [insert number]% of our operating revenue from the state through the Public Library Fund; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the [insert library name] Board of Trustees, thank Senator [insert name] and members of the Ohio Senate for making public libraries a priority in the state budget bill by increasing the Public Library Fund from 1.68% to 1.7% of the state’s total General Revenue Fund for Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board respectfully urges the Ohio House of Representatives and the Governor to keep the Public Library Fund at 1.7% through the Conference Committee deliberations and include the provision in the final version of HB 166.