



NO OBJECTION

A. 8976 (Reilly)

in relation to requiring school districts to distribute to students in each school building written information about the public library and how to obtain a library card

May 14, 2012

This proposal would require school districts to annually distribute information about public libraries and obtaining a library card to students entering kindergarten, sixth grade and ninth grade, and to new students upon first enrollment.

The proposal would require school districts to annually consult with libraries located within their boundaries to obtain information about each such library and materials to enable students to obtain a library card.

The Council supports the goal of the proposal – to expand use of public libraries by students enrolled in the districts led by our members.

However, we do foresee complications with implementing the law and meeting its requirements due to the fact that school and library district boundaries do not always align. Accordingly, some school districts would need to work with multiple libraries and it would be necessary for someone to match student residences with the correct libraries.

The Council does not object to this legislation and would work with the State Education Department and the New York Library Association to develop solutions to any administrative complications.