

SENATE RESOLUTION providing for a Senate Select Committee on Libraries

WHEREAS, New York State currently has over 7,000 libraries, which serve as the treasure trove of our state's knowledge, maintaining nearly 250 million volumes and circulating over 160 million items per year; and

WHEREAS, New York State's libraries serve all of the people of New York, from childhood to senior citizenship, and provide universal access to books, periodicals, public records, electronic documents, presentations, movies and other educational materials, in addition to answering over 27 million customer reference questions each year; and

WHEREAS, New York State's libraries provide access to over 13,500 computers across the state, permitting customers to gain access to the internet and perform job searches and personal inquiries to advance themselves and their communities; and

WHEREAS, It is recognized that an open forum is needed to properly ascertain the future needs of our state's libraries and library systems in order to enhance learning, improve quality of life, and provide equal opportunity for all New Yorkers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a Select Committee on Libraries is hereby established, to conduct meetings, conferences, examinations, and public hearings to gather information and make legislative proposals and recommendations, and to provide outreach to and interaction with private organizations that assist libraries, and to make recommendations on Library-related legislative proposals and resolutions before the State Legislature; and be it further

RESOLVED, The Select Committee shall consist of nineteen Senators, to be appointed by the Majority Coalition leaders, pursuant to membership composition as set forth under Senate Rule VIII; and be it further

RESOLVED, The chairperson of such committee shall be appointed by the Majority Coalition leaders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That such committee shall have the same authority as committees constituted under Article 4 of the Legislative Law and Senate Rule VII.