R-11-XXX

**TOWN OF CUMBERLAND**

**RESOLUTION: In support of Legislation restoring funding for the State Aid to Libraries to the full 25 percent**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF CUMBERLAND AS FOLLOWS:**

**WHEREAS:** for many people, public libraries are their only means of access to computer services and all forms of media essential for fulfilling and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS:** in recognition of the importance of libraries in our society, the State of Rhode Island passed legislation setting the level of state aid for library services at a minimum of 25% of the amount spent from local tax funds and the library’s private endowment; and

**WHEREAS**: due to level funding the past several years, the actual funding percentage of library aid has been reduced to between 21 - 22%.  For FY 2016, the town will receive $266,265 (22%), which is $36,628 less than the Town of Cumberland would have received if funding was at 25%; and

**WHEREAS**: the Town of Cumberland supports fully funding State Aid to Libraries at the 25% level in FY 2017.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF CUMBERLAND, RHODE ISLAND, AS FOLLOWS:** THAT THE CUMBERLAND TOWN COUNCIL, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CUMBERLAND LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, DOES HEREBY SUPPORT LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD RESTORE FUNDING FOR STATE AID TO LIBRARIES TO THE FULL 25% REQUIRED IN RI GENERAL LAWS SECTION 29-6-2 (a) AND URGES THE CUMBERLAND DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO WORK DILIGENTLY FOR ITS PASSAGE.

**SECTION 1:** THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS PASSAGE BY THE CUMBERLAND TOWN COUNCIL.

Library /Finance

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SANDRA GIOVANELLI, TOWN CLERK