

Bridging the Library Advocacy Gap: Coalition Building



UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
Library Services

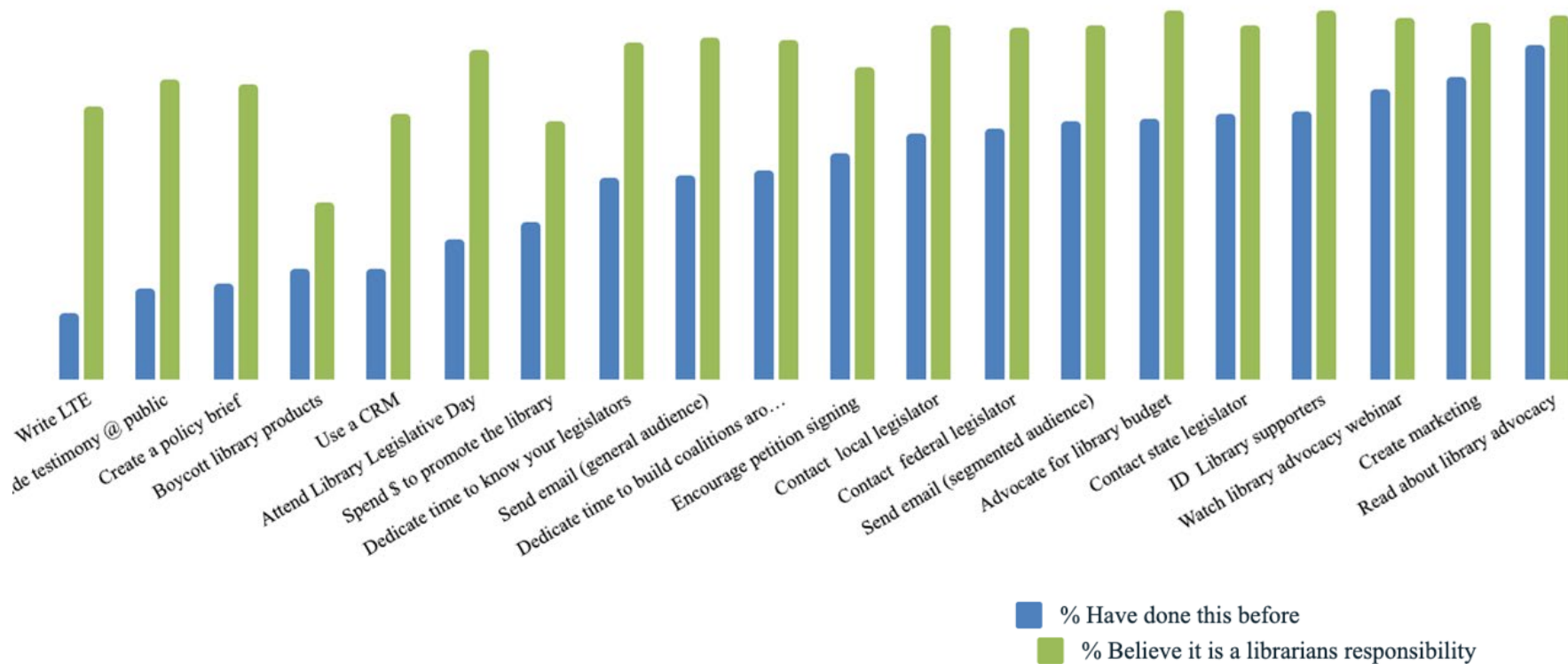
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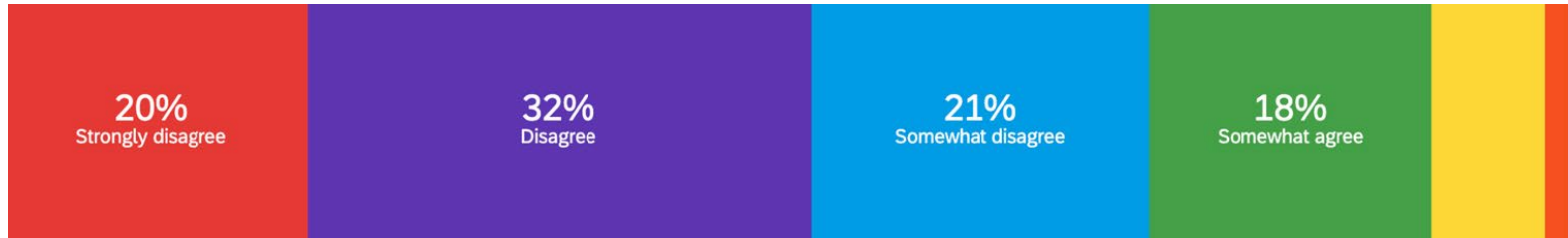
The Library Advocacy Gap



(Durney, 2023)

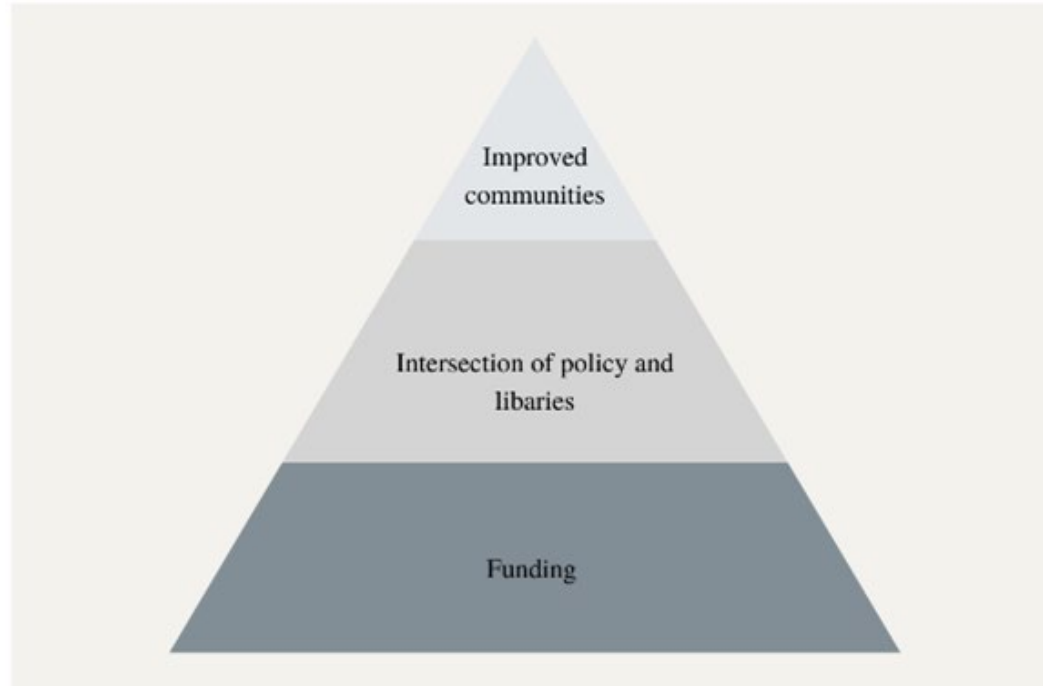
Respondent feedback to LIS experience

My library school curriculum provided me with sufficient library advocacy training.



Strongly disagree Disagree Somewhat disagree Somewhat agree Agree Strongly agree

Hierarchy of Library Advocacy



[Durney, 2022](#)

Book Bans Are Rising Sharply in Public Libraries

Two years into a surge in book banning efforts across the country, restrictions that were largely happening in school libraries, where they affected children, are now affecting the wider community as well.

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284



THEMAINEMONITOR.ORG

Twenty-two challenges to school library books have been filed in Maine since January 2022. Just one book has been removed.

School librarians fight legislation to ban books considered obscene

A bill to make public schools subject to Maine's anti-obscenity law has inspired librarians to organize to protect access to books and other materials.

BY LANA COHEN STAFF WRITER



456 COMMENTS



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Librarian Savannah Sessions at the Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library in Lovell Tuesday. Shawn Patrick Ouellette/Staff

Photo: Shawn Patrick Ouellette/Staff

Portland Press Herald



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 123

S.P. 62

In Senate, January 9, 2023

An Act to Eliminate the Educational Purposes Exception to the Prohibition on the Dissemination of Obscene Matter to Minors

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LIBBY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative POMERLEAU of Standish.

[Maine Library Association \(MLA\)](#)

[Maine Association of School Libraries \(MASL\)](#)

[ACLU of Maine, Educate Maine](#)

[Maine Council for English Language Arts](#)

[Maine Curriculum Leaders Association,](#)

[Maine Humanities Council](#)

[Maine Chapter of the National Social Workers](#)

[Association](#)

[Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance](#)

[The Telling Room,](#)






[EveryLibrary](#)

MASL - Maine Association of School Libraries
February 26 · 🌐

LD 123 is not for Maine. Maine voters, let your legislators know you oppose LD 123 — it takes away parents' rights, de-professionalizes educators, and discriminates against people in federally protected categories. Please share far and wide in your school, social, and professional communities, so the message gets across.

Read our blog post with all the details and talking points: <https://maslibraries.org/page-1365336/13095053>

Email your legislators: <https://action.everyli...> See more

LD 123 would take away parental rights	LD 123 would discriminate against protected identities such as LGBTQ+ folks	
		
LD 123 could threaten Title IX compliance	LD 123 is a "Dignity of Work" issue for educators	LD 123 is not for Maine. Let your legislators know.
		



Maine Library Association

Published by Instagram · June 26 ·



Have you heard the news? The proposed Maine bills LD123 and LD1008 have been defeated!

Countering these measures would not have been possible without the persistent efforts of our advocacy coalition partners: [MASL -Maine Association of School Libraries](#) [Maine Humanities](#) [EveryLibrary](#) [Maine Writers & Publishers](#) [ACLU of Maine](#) [The Telling Room National](#) [Association of Social Workers Maine Chapter](#) , and [Maine Council For English Language Arts](#).

THANK YOU also - to all of the com... [See more](#)



“I was so incredibly grateful to have so many organizations network together so quickly to help each other fight those bad bills. I learned so much from this group!” coalition member



- Goals, Mission, and Legislative Agenda
- Recruitment: Identify Common Goals and Interests
- Establish Clear Governance and Decision-Making Structures
- Develop a Strong Communication Strategy
- Mobilize Resources
- Call to Action
- Evaluate