

Sample Congressional Letter for Public Library Directors and Authorized Staff

This sample is for public library directors or staff members who are authorized to speak on behalf of their library or library system. Please personalize it with information about your library and community.

Dear Senator/Representative **[Last Name]**:

I am writing on behalf of **[library or library system name]** in **[community/county]**, Mississippi to ask for your continued support of E-Rate for public libraries.

E-Rate helps our library provide reliable internet and Wi-Fi, along with the equipment needed to keep those services working. In FY2026, Mississippi public libraries have received approximately **\$2.10 million in E-Rate funding commitments** for internet service and network infrastructure.

For the people we serve, this support means much more than having internet access in the library. Our patrons use library internet and Wi-Fi to search and apply for jobs, complete workforce training, do schoolwork, access government and social services, find health information, and learn how to use technology.

[Add one or two sentences about how people use internet or Wi-Fi at your library. A local example is especially helpful.]

This is particularly important in rural communities, where the public library may be one of the most dependable places for residents to get online and receive help using online services.

If E-Rate support is reduced, more of these costs could have to be paid from local library funds. That could put additional pressure on budgets that also support staff, books, programs, and other services our communities depend on.

As the FCC reviews the future of E-Rate, I ask for your support in keeping public libraries eligible for meaningful E-Rate support.

Thank you for your service to Mississippi and for considering the needs of the communities our public libraries serve.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title]

[Library or Library System]

[City, Mississippi]

[Email/Phone, if desired]