

2006 LIBRARY LEGISLATION
HOUSE BILL **H7219**

GOAL: Provide Rhode Island citizens with equal access to information to promote lifelong learning for all.

STRATEGIES

1. Provide statewide access to a core of electronic information databases for use from libraries, schools, businesses and from at home.

- “63% of people 18 or older, and 81% of teenagers regularly go online for information.”
(Pew Internet Project, 2005 Report)
- Rhode Island is one of the LAST states to provide its citizens with this type of access.
- State funding of databases would free up local resources to address individual community needs.

(Cost \$1,000,000)

2. Provide citizens with “one-stop” access to over 9 million information items available in public, college, and special library collections throughout the state, both public and private.

A catalog displaying the combined collections of all public libraries (CLAN) and those of 10 academic and 15 health science libraries (HELIN) would be a huge first step toward creating a STATEWIDE LIBRARY CATALOG.

(Cost \$1,300,000)