January 28th, 2021

Office of Governor Ned Lamont
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

To The Honorable Governor Ned Lamont,

The Connecticut Library Association affirms that library sector workers are an integral part of the state’s re-opening, and ensuring our health and availability to aid patrons is key to moving forward at this time. I ask that the libraries be added for eligibility in vaccination group 1B, so we can safely continue the front-line work of offering educational and cultural resources, digital access, and providing a safe haven for all. Our profession was accorded a distinct sector in the Governor’s reopening plan, and it is important that we also be specifically noted in the vaccination eligibility schedule. In doing so, our local health districts can administer the doses to library workers without need for interpretation of the guidelines. Already, public university library staff have been assigned to group 1B, and extending this designation to all libraries is the right next step.

CLA acknowledges and thanks the Department of Public Health and the Governor’s office for all their efforts to combat the pandemic, and we want to be a part of a better 2021 for Connecticut as soon as safely possible.

Respectfully,
Tom Piezzo
President, Connecticut Library Association