

LIBRARY eBOOKS

what's the big deal?

It's about tax dollars:

CT Libraries pay on average **SIX TIMES** what consumers pay for the same eBook. That money comes from municipal, state and board of education budgets. Taxpayers are being overcharged! Libraries need fair prices.

It's about access:

Even though eBooks are digital files, libraries can only lend them to one person at a time. Then, **two years after purchase they expire and vanish from the collection**. To continue to offer those titles, libraries must pay the same inflated prices again. Libraries need perpetual access.

It's about equity:

It's the mission of every library to provide access to **information for all**. Unfair eBook terms directly undercut libraries' ability to ensure equitable access. Not every community can afford to pay exorbitant eBook pricing and that keeps eBooks out of the hands of many. Libraries need fair terms.

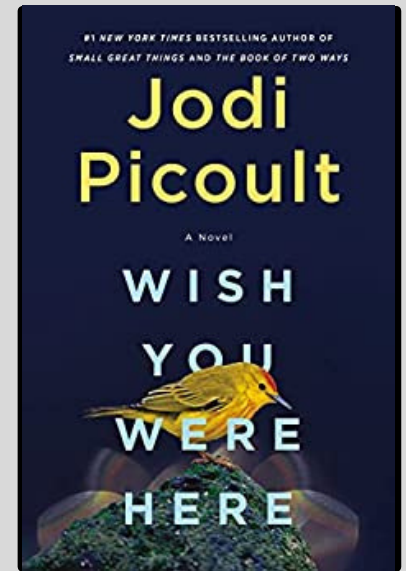
It's about demand:

eBook borrowing at CT Libraries has **increased 130%** in the last five years. Library budgets can't keep up. Libraries need help from Connecticut lawmakers.

Tell your legislator to support

S.B. 131: An Act Concerning Electronic Book Licensing

How much does it cost to read Jodi Picoult?



Consumers pay
\$8 for the eBook or
\$30 for the eAudiobook.

Libraries pay
\$55 for the eBook or
\$95 for the eAudiobook
but then, after two years, the
eBook expires and must be
purchased again.

How much money have tax
payers been overcharged
for Jodi Picoult?

Learn more:

bit.ly/ebooksforct

#eBooksforCT

What do our libraries say?

Danbury currently has nearly 150 recently-expired eBook titles that still have an active wait list. Unfortunately, the Library doesn't the budget to pay for those titles again. How frustrating is it that our patrons have been waiting months to read a book, and now won't be able to?
- Amanda Gilbertie, Digital Services Librarian

**DANBURY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

**SOUTH
WINDSOR
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

It's become very clear that in South Windsor there is a demand to have as many eBooks available as possible, but the metered access one copy/one user model doesn't work and the price markup for retail versus library is astounding. It's become crippling on our budgets.
- Kate Noonan, Librarian

Making eBooks unaffordable to libraries is a barrier to community success. We have seen a dramatic increase in the cost to provide eBooks to our community. Yet, it is critically important to provide literacy opportunities to school students and those who are unable to visit a library building.
- Luis Chavez-Brumell, Deputy Director

**NEW
HAVEN
FREE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

What does S.B. 131 do?

Fair pricing for libraries. No more expiration dates on eBooks.

S.B. 131 establishes fair contract terms so that publishers can make money, libraries can build robust digital collections, and taxpayers aren't overcharged. Unlike legislation in other States, S.B. 131 avoids federal copyright law and instead focuses on contract law, an issue firmly within a State's right.

Learn more & support your library at: bit.ly/ebooksforct

It's about tax dollars. It's about access.
It's about equity. It's about demand.

#eBooksforCT