



# GAUTENG PROVINCE

SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reference: Copyright Amendment Bill  
Directorate Library and Archival Services  
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Date : 6 June 2017

Mr A Hermans  
Committee Secretary  
Portfolio Committee Trade and Industry,  
PARLIAMENT

E Mail : [ahermans@parliament.gov.za](mailto:ahermans@parliament.gov.za)

Dear Mr Hermans

## **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT BILL: WRITTEN SUBMISSION FROM GAUTENG PUBLIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES**

Gauteng aspires to be a place where knowledge is valued; where an educated, informed and literate community fosters inclusion, equity and social cohesion. Libraries contribute to Gauteng being a "Province of learning" by assisting people to find information in an increasingly complex and information-rich world. Libraries play a vital role in community development, supporting learning opportunities, facilitating lifelong learning, complementing formal education systems, and expanding the learning capacity of local communities.


Currently Library services are run in partnership with three metropolitan, 6 local and one district municipality. There are 275 community libraries in Gauteng.

On behalf of the public library and information sector in Gauteng, we want to express our humble appreciation and gratitude for the inclusion of the "General exceptions regarding protection of copyright work for libraries, archives, museums and galleries" in the Amendment Bill. We experience this as a very positive and progressive step in empowering the library fraternity to deliver on one of its core mandates namely to preserve and make information available to the public at large.

However, in terms of fair use in respect of a work, we still find that, although amended, it is still restrictive and we would have preferred it to have been even more open.

We kindly request that you note and consider our recommendations made.

Kind regards

  
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J.M. MEYER  
DIRECTOR: LIBRARY AND ARCHIVAL SERVICES  
DATE 6/06/2017