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Claiborne Pell

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### November 9, 1981

Ms. Joan Ress Reeves
Chair
Rhede Island State Advisory
Council on Libraries
Department of State Library Services
95 Davis Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Dear Ms. Reeves:

Thank you for your recent letter of October 28th in regard to appropriations for Public Libraries and the Department of Education.

As you know, the House-passed appropriations bill contains a figure of \$62.5 million for Public Libraries and \$12 million for Interlibrary Cooperation. The Scante Appropriations Committee, I am pleased to report, has also recommended these same figures. While this measure has yet to be approved by the full Scante, I want you to know that I definitely support both of these funding levels.

With respect to the Department of Education, I do not believe it should be abolished. I was an early and strong advocate of its creation. I believed then, and believe now, that educational matters should be voiced, debated and considered at the very highest levels of our National Government. Education should be one of our Nationals top priorities, and a Cabinet-level Department helps insure that its concerns will receive immediate and direct consideration by the President.

Thank you again for witting me on these important matters. If there is any further way in which I can be of help, I hope you will let so know.

With warm regards.

Byer sincerely,

Claiborne Pell