
Claiborne Pell

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Sandy,

Here's Bush's WHCLIS statement as promised.

Sincerely,

Kileen
I am pleased to send my warmest greetings to everyone preparing for the White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

If the United States is to remain a global leader in the 21st century, we must keep pace with rapid advances in technology, as well as with increasing trade and commerce between nations. Our ability to stay ahead depends, in large part, on our ability to stay informed.

Today, problems such as illiteracy threaten to undermine our Nation's strength and productivity. That is why we must improve educational opportunities in the United States and why we must meet the information needs of all our citizens -- especially minorities, the elderly, disadvantaged young people, and persons living in rural areas.

I am committed to working with you and with others, both in the public and private sectors, to enhance our nation's library services and information systems. By examining the diverse needs of our population and by exploring ways to make the maximum use of new information technology, we can bring the rewards of learning to more and more Americans and ensure that our Nation's libraries continue to serve as a valuable source of knowledge and training. Most important, improving the Nation's library and information services may be one of the best investments we make in our campaign to end illiteracy in the United States.

My thanks to each of you for your efforts to make this upcoming Conference a success. I look forward to the reports and recommendations that will be issued when the Conference convenes in 1991.

Barbara joins me in saluting your dedication to this great cause -- one that means so much to our nation and is so close to our hearts. God bless you.