Library Services and Construction Act: Joint Hearing (April 11, 1989): Memorandum 01

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MEMORANDUM

April 10, 1989

TO: Senator
FROM: ADC
RE: LSCA Hearing - Tuesday Morning, 9:30

The Joint hearing with the House on the reauthorization of the Library Services and Construction Act begins at 9:30 tomorrow in Rayburn 2175. Pat Williams will be your co-chair. As it is also Library Day there will be a large supportive audience. A delegation will be on hand from RI. They will come forward at the beginning in the hopes of having a photo taken with you. If possible you should try to take them aside for a short visit. This is in place of an office appointment which they had originally requested. Bruce Daniels, Director of RI Library Services, and Joan Reeves will be in this group. The RI witness is the new Director of the Providence Public Library, Dale Thompson.

The Administration has requested that its witness, Mr. Kolb, testify solo on his own panel citing the custom usually accorded to senior level Administration people. Because of this there are now 4 panels. Pat Williams, like you, does not want the hearing to drag so lights will be in use and the 5 minute rule will be enforced. I think Williams allows one additional minute for witnesses to wrap up. All witnesses have been informed of this rule.

I have included mention of your "permanent papers" bill in the context of a question to the President of the American Library Association. The ALA has strongly endorsed the resolution. A copy is in your briefing book. Also you should thank Pat Williams for recently introducing the resolution in the House. There is wide support for your bill in the library community.

LSCA was last reauthorized in 1984. The total amount appropriated in all LSCA titles in 1989 is $127 million. Grants are allocated by statutory formula to the states under Titles 1-111 while Titles V and VI are smaller, discretionary grant programs made by the Department of Education. Title IV is a set-aside of funds for Indians and Native Hawaiians.

The Administration has just transmitted their own proposal called the Library Improvement Act which eliminates funds for
library construction and all direct funds to college libraries while redirecting a smaller amount to services for the disadvantaged. There is no support for this proposal anywhere in the national library community.