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Library Services Improvement Act (1989): Speech 01

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CHIEF OFFICERS OF STATE LIBRARY AGENCIES

Statement on the Federal Library Services and Construction Act

Adopted by the

Chief Officers of State Library Agencies

January 15, 1989

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies express their continued support for the Federal Library Services and Construction Act because it enables the States and localities to serve millions of Americans, including those who are disabled, disadvantaged, institutionalized, or without the ability to speak and read English. The State and Federal partnership assisted by this Act strengthens public libraries, major urban resource libraries, and resource sharing among all types of libraries, and makes possible service important to the economy and to the international competitiveness of the United States.

The Federal role in library services, as defined by the Congress, will continue to be debated and reviewed by the library community and its organizations, the participants in meetings leading to the 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services, and the Administration as it presents legislative and budget proposals.

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies emphasize the need to strengthen existing services while developing new services to respond to the educational, informational, and cultural needs of Americans in a society marked by competition and the value of information in every sector of American life.

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, therefore, urge action to continue and fund the current Library Services and Construction Act so that essential library services will not be interrupted.

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