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**The White House Conference on
Library and Information Services
1991
FACT SHEET**

As the United States and the world move into the 21st century, policy makers at all levels must deal with the explosion in information services. The White House Conference on Library and Information Services was authorized by Public Law 100-382 to develop recommendations for improving library and information services to meet the demands we face in the next millennium.

Who: Approximately 900 delegates and alternates selected by their states and representing all 50 states and 9 U.S. territories, Native American tribes and the federal library community. Conference participants will include:

- library and information professionals
- government officials
- library trustees
- general public

When: The conference process is already taking place in preconference meetings and public forums across the country. At these state level activities, policy recommendations are being formulated for action by state and local officials and for the consideration of the national delegation.

The White House Conference will be held at the Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C., July 9-13, 1991.

Why: The Conference will make recommendations to improve library and information services to enhance literacy, increase productivity, and strengthen democracy. This theme umbrella places the Conference at the cutting edge of some of the most critical issues facing our nation: a literate workforce, the productivity to compete in the international marketplace of the 21st century, and a populace equipped to participate fully in the democratic system.

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The White House Conference is conducted under the direction of
The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

Background: The 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services is the second of its kind. The first, held in 1979, resulted in 64 resolutions presented to the President, Congress and government agencies at the federal, state and local level for improvements to library and information services nationwide.

To date, action has been taken on 55 of the 64 resolution areas, including:

- intensified efforts to use technology to preserve books and papers.
- increased use of satellite communications, video techniques and cable TV in the expansion of library and information services.
- an active role for libraries in adult literacy programs.
- adoption of standards for publishing, producing, organizing, and transmitting information and for telecommunication and computer technology.

For more information contact:

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