White House Conference on Library and Information Services: Final Passage (1988): Report 05

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Reasons for NOT INCLUDING AN AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT STATE'S USE OF LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT (LSCA) FUNDS in the White House Conference process.

-It is contrary to the whole states rights doctrine. States are given LSCA funds to use at the State determines it can best use them. It would not be right for the Federal Government to dictate how the states use these funds. It removes all flexibility from the states to do their own planning.

-The results of any previous LSCA funded research or activities in the state would be prohibited from being used in the state's Governor's conference or in the White House Conference process as a whole.

For example: If a state had conducted a survey on their citizen's library and information needs or had put on a conference on a particular subject like "user fees"; if this amendment passes, it would not allow the states to use what they had done previously.

-All states and territories develop LSCA 5-year plans, which are approved by the Department of Education, to outline the state's goals and objectives. They use the LSCA funds for state development according to their state plan.

-It is so restrictive from every point of view.

-Forcing that kind of restrictive amendment would preclude the state's ability to be flexible at the state level.

Conference in states help them attract state aid. It gives us state to local libraries.

Libraries have so many problems that it really would help to have local officials get involved.