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Library Services and Construction Act: Reauthorization (1989-1994): Report 11

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*revised
language
9/11/89*

Simon Amendment

Senator Simon offered an amendment that would recognize the increasing demand on libraries for foreign language materials *and* the escalating costs of these materials, ~~and that major urban resource libraries have a disproportionate demand for such materials.~~

Title V of the Library Services and Construction Act provides grants to state and local libraries for foreign language material acquisition. This amendment waives the maximum grant amount available under Title V for major urban resource libraries (as defined in the Library Services and Construction Act). The amendment allows for no more than thirty percent of the total funds appropriated for Title V to provide grants to major urban resource libraries in excess of the existing \$15,000 grant cap. Seventy percent of the sums appropriated will continue to be distributed on a competitive basis to rural and urban communities alike.

The amendment recognizes that in states where major urban resource libraries exist ~~that~~ that these libraries are a resource for foreign language materials for smaller libraries. For example, forty percent of all information requests to the Chicago Public Library from other libraries in the State of Illinois are for foreign language materials. Recognizing the greater financial burden on Major Urban Resource Libraries, the Committee adopted this language to encourage major urban resource libraries to apply for Title V funding. The Committee also recognizes that libraries serving smaller communities have a need for foreign language materials. To meet this need, the Committee encourages smaller libraries to apply for grants under Title V.