

2016

## White House Conference on Library and Information Services (1987-1988): Report 12

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99TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. J. RES. 112

To authorize and request the President to call a White House Conference on Library and Information Services to be held not later than 1989, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 16 (legislative day, APRIL 15), 1985

Mr. PELL introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize and request the President to call a White House Conference on Library and Information Services to be held not later than 1989, and for other purposes.

Whereas access to information and ideas is indispensable to the development of human potential, the advancement of civilization, and the continuance of enlightened self-government;

Whereas the preservation and the dissemination of information and ideas are the primary purpose and function of the library and information services;

Whereas the economic vitality of the United States in a global economy and the productivity of the work force of the Nation rest on access to information in the postindustrial information age;

Whereas the White House Conference on Library and Information Services of 1979 began a process in which a broadly representative group of citizens made recommendations that have improved the library and information services of the Nation, and sparked the Nation's interest in the crucial role of library and information services at home and abroad;

Whereas library and information service is essential to a learning society;

Whereas social, demographic, and economic shifts of the past decade have intensified the rate of change and require that Americans of all age groups develop and sustain literacy and other lifelong learning habits;

Whereas expanding technological developments offer unprecedented opportunities for application to teaching and learning and to new means to provide access to library and information services;

Whereas the growth and augmentation of the Nation's library and information services are essential if all Americans, without regard to race, ethnic background, or geographic location are to have reasonable access to adequate information and lifelong learning;

Whereas the future of our society depends on developing the learning potential inherent in all children and youth, especially literary, reading, research, and retrieval skills;

Whereas rapidly developing technology offer a potential for enabling libraries and information services to serve the public more fully; and

Whereas emerging satellite communication networks and other technologies offer unparalleled opportunity for access to education opportunities to all parts of the world, and to indi-

1 House Conference shall revert to the National Conference on  
2 Libraries and Information Science after the close of the  
3 White House Conference.

4 DEFINITIONS

5 SEC. 7. For the purpose of this joint resolution—

6 (1) the term “Commission” means the National  
7 Commission on Libraries and Information Science;

8 (2) The term “Conference” means White House  
9 Conference on Library and Information Services; and

10 (3) the term “State” includes the District of Co-  
11 lumbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam,  
12 American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Trust Terri-  
13 tory of the Pacific Islands, and American Indian  
14 Tribes.

15 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

16 SEC. 8. There are authorized to be appropriated without  
17 fiscal year limitations such sums as may be necessary to  
18 carry out this joint resolution. Such sums shall remain avail-  
19 able for obligation until expended.

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viduals who are homebound, handicapped, or incarcerated:  
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 PRESIDENT TO CALL CONFERENCE IN 1989

4 SECTION 1. The President is authorized to call a White  
5 House Conference on Library and Information Services to be  
6 held not later than 1989.

7 ESTABLISHMENT OF CONFERENCE

8 SEC. 2. (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the White  
9 House Conference on Library and Information Services shall  
10 be to develop recommendations for the further improvement  
11 of the library and information services of the Nation and their  
12 use by the public, in accordance with the findings set forth in  
13 the preamble to this joint resolution.

14 (b) COMPOSITION.—The Conference shall be composed  
15 of—

16 (1) representatives of professional library and in-  
17 formation personnel and individuals who support or fur-  
18 nish volunteer services to libraries and information  
19 services centers, from all age groups and walks of life,  
20 and members of the general public;

21 (2) representatives of local, statewide, regional,  
22 and national institutions, agencies, organizations, and  
23 associations which provide library and information  
24 services to the public;

1 (3) representatives of educational institutions,  
2 agencies, organizations, and associations (including pro-  
3 fessional and scholarly associations for the advance-  
4 ment of education and research);

5 (4) individuals with special knowledge of, and spe-  
6 cial competence in, technology as it may be used for  
7 the improvement of library and information services;  
8 and

9 (5) representatives of Federal, State, and local  
10 governments.

11 (c) DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPANTS.—In carrying out  
12 subsection (a)—

13 (1) one-fourth of the participants shall be selected  
14 from the library and information profession,

15 (2) one-fourth of the participants shall be selected  
16 from among individuals who are currently active li-  
17 brary and information supporters, including trustees  
18 and friends groups,

19 (3) one-fourth shall be selected from among indi-  
20 viduals who are Federal, State, or local government  
21 officials, and

22 (4) one-fourth shall be selected from the general  
23 public.

24 (d) STATE PARTICIPATION REQUIRED.—State and ter-  
25 ritorial delegates and alternates to the national conference

1 (d) COMPENSATION.—Members of any committee es-  
2 tablished under this section who are not regular full-time offi-  
3 cers or employees of the United States shall, while attending  
4 to the business of the Conference, be entitled to receive com-  
5 pensation therefor at a rate fixed by the President but not  
6 exceeding the rate of pay specified at the time of such service  
7 for grade GS-18 in section 5332 of title 5, United States  
8 Code, including traveltime. Such members, may, while away  
9 from their homes or regular places of business, be allowed  
10 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as  
11 may be authorized under section 5703 of title 5, United  
12 States Code, for persons in the Government service em-  
13 ployed intermittently.

#### 14 GIFTS AND TITLE TO CERTAIN PROPERTY

15 SEC. 6. (a) GIFTS.—The Commission shall have author-  
16 ity to accept, on behalf of the Conference, in the name of the  
17 United States, grants, gifts, or bequests of money for immedi-  
18 ate disbursement by the Commission in furtherance of the  
19 Conference. Such grants, gifts, or bequests offered the Com-  
20 mission, shall be paid by the donor or his representative into  
21 the Treasury of the United States, whose receipts shall enter  
22 such grants, gifts, and bequests in a special account to the  
23 credit of the Commission for the purposes of this joint resolu-  
24 tion.

25 (b) REVERSION OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT AND MATE-  
26 RIAL.—Materials and equipment acquired by the White

1 (3) five individuals designated by the President  
2 pro tempore of the Senate with not more than three  
3 being Members of the Senate;

4 (4) ten individuals appointed by the President;

5 (5) the Secretary of Education; and

6 (6) the Librarian of Congress.

7 The President, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the  
8 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Chairman  
9 of the Commission shall, after consultation, assure that mem-  
10 bers of the Advisory Committee are broadly representative of  
11 all areas of the United States.

12 (b) FUNCTION.—The advisory committee shall assist  
13 and advise the Commission in planning and conducting the  
14 Conference.

15 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—(1) The Chairman of the Com-  
16 mission shall serve as Vice Chairman of the Advisory Com-  
17 mittee. The Advisory Committee shall elect the Chair of the  
18 Advisory Committee from among its members, who are not  
19 full-time Federal employees. The Advisory Committee shall  
20 select the Chair of the Conference.

21 (2) The Chairman of the Advisory Committee is author-  
22 ized to establish, prescribe functions for, and appoint mem-  
23 bers to, such advisory and technical committees and staff as  
24 may be necessary to assist and advise the Conference in car-  
25 rying out its functions.

1 shall participate in the respective State or territorial confer-  
2 ence.

### 3 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

4 SEC. 3. (a) DIRECTION BY COMMISSION.—The Confer-  
5 ence shall be planned and conducted under the direction of  
6 the National Commission on Libraries and Information Sci-  
7 ence.

8 (b) COMMISSION FUNCTIONS.—In carrying out this  
9 joint resolution, the Commission shall—

10 (1) when appropriate, request the cooperation and  
11 assistance of other Federal departments and agencies  
12 in order to carry out its responsibilities;

13 (2) make technical and financial assistance (by  
14 grant, contract, or otherwise) available to the States to  
15 enable them to organize and conduct conferences and  
16 other meetings in order to prepare for the Conference;

17 (3) prepare and make available background mate-  
18 rials for the use of delegates to the Conference and as-  
19 sociated State conferences, and prepare and distribute  
20 such reports of the Conference and associated State  
21 conferences as may be appropriate; and

22 (4) conduct fiscal oversight activities with respect  
23 to the preparation for and the convening of the Confer-  
24 ence including contracting for the services of an audit  
25 firm.

1 (c) FEDERAL AGENCY COOPERATION AND ASSIST-  
 2 ANCE.—(1) Each Federal department and agency, including  
 3 the national libraries, shall cooperate with, and provide as-  
 4 sistance to the Commission upon its request under clause (1)  
 5 of subsection (b). For that purpose, each Federal department  
 6 and agency is authorized and encouraged to provide person-  
 7 nel to the Commission.

8 (2) The Librarian of Congress, the Director of the Na-  
 9 tional Library of Medicine, and the Director of the National  
 10 Agricultural Library are authorized to detail personnel to the  
 11 Commission, upon request, to enable the Commission to  
 12 carry out its functions under this joint resolution.

13 (d) PERSONNEL.—In carrying out the provisions of this  
 14 joint resolution, the Commission is authorized to engage such  
 15 personnel as may be necessary to assist the Commission and  
 16 the Advisory Committee, without regard for the provisions of  
 17 title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the  
 18 competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51, and  
 19 subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classifi-  
 20 cation and General Schedule pay rates.

21 (e) EXPENSES.—Members of the Conference may,  
 22 while away from their homes or regular places of business  
 23 and attending the Conference, be allowed travel expenses,  
 24 including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as may be allowed  
 25 under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for persons

1 serving without pay. Such expenses may be paid by way of  
 2 advances, reimbursement, or in installments as the Commis-  
 3 sion may determine.

#### 4 REPORTS

5 SEC. 4. (a) SUBMISSION TO PRESIDENT; TRANSMIT-  
 6 TAL TO CONGRESS.—A final report of the Conference, con-  
 7 taining such findings and recommendations as may be made  
 8 by the Conference, shall be submitted to the President not  
 9 later than 120 days following the close of the Conference.  
 10 The final report shall be made public and, within 90 days  
 11 after its receipt by the President, transmitted to the Congress  
 12 together with a statement of the President containing the  
 13 recommendations of the President with respect to such  
 14 report.

15 (b) PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION.—The Commis-  
 16 sion is authorized to publish and distribute for the Conference  
 17 the reports authorized under this joint resolution. Copies of  
 18 all such reports shall be provided to the depository libraries.

#### 19 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

20 SEC. 5. (a) COMPOSITION.—There is established an ad-  
 21 visory committee of the Conference composed of—

22 (1) eight individuals designated by the Chairman  
 23 of the Commission;

24 (2) five individuals designated by the Speaker of  
 25 the House of Representatives with not more than three  
 26 being Members of the House of Representatives;