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White House Conference on Library and  
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6-26-1991

## White House Conference on Library and Information Services: Joint Hearing (1991): Correspondence 04

Claiborne Pell

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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND  
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

June 26, 1991

Dear Colleague:

As Chairman of the Education Subcommittee and sponsor of the legislation authorizing the second White House Conference on Library and Information Services, I invite you to participate in a Joint Congressional Hearing on July 11, 1991, in the East Ballroom of the Ramada Renaissance Hotel at Tech World, 999 9th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Congressman Pat Williams, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Labor Management that has jurisdiction over federal library programs, will co-chair.

Our hearing is scheduled midway during the White House Conference, which will bring more than 3,000 people to Washington from across America. The three overarching conference themes are: Library and Information Services for Literacy, Productivity, and Democracy. We are inviting testimony to serve as a basis for realistic planning for library and information services as the 21st century approaches. Some of the goals of the Conference are: to find ways for further cost-effective improvements of library and information services; to provide all Americans with reasonable opportunity of access; to keep pace with rapid technological developments and bring the rewards of learning to more Americans; to ensure that our nation's libraries continue to serve as a valuable source of knowledge and training.

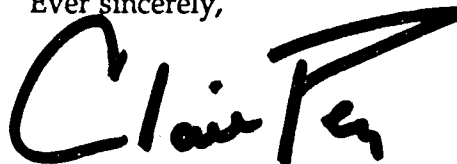
In the continuing debate about the crisis in American education, libraries have often succeeded where other institutions have not. The role of libraries is evolving. If the United States is to remain a global leader in the 21st century, we must keep pace with technological advancements as well as with increasing trade and commerce between nations. Our ability as a nation to stay ahead depends, in large part, on our ability to stay informed.

A similar process took place in 1979 to impressive results. About 75 percent of the resolutions passed by delegates to the first White House Conference on Library and Information Services received policy or funding action.

We hope that you will join us in our historic hearing. Please contact Jason Hendler of my staff at 224-7666 if you plan to attend.

Warm regards.

Ever sincerely,



Claiborne Pell  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Education,  
Arts and Humanities