

2016

White House Conference on Library and Information Services (1987-1988): Report 19

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Recommended Citation

Ford, "White House Conference on Library and Information Services (1987-1988): Report 19" (2016). *White House Conference on Library and Information Services (1987-1988)*. Paper 1.
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AMENDMENT TO H.J. RES. 90
OFFERED BY MR. FORD OF MICHIGAN

Amend the title of the Resolution so as to read ``Joint Resolution to authorize and request the President to call and conduct a White House Conference on Library and Information Services to be held not earlier than September 1, 1989, and not later than September 30, 1991, and for other purposes.``.

Page 3, strike out lines 4 through 6 and insert the following:

- 1 The President is authorized to call and conduct a White
- 2 House Conference on Library and Information Sciences to be
- 3 held not earlier than September 1, 1989, and not later than
- 4 September 30, 1991.

RATIONALE:

The underlined portions in the amendments above are intended to assure that ample time is given between enactment of the enabling legislation and the appropriations process, for the Appropriations Committee to consider funding for it. The year 1989 would mark one decade since the First White House Conference on Library & Information Services, and it would be preferable to hold the Second Conference in that year. In reality, it may take longer than that to obtain federal funding, as well as for the private sector to obtain its two-thirds share

100TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 90

and conduct

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~~ earlier than ~~other purposes.~~ Sep. 1, 1989, and not later than Sep. 30, 1991, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 1987

Mr. FORD of Michigan introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

JOINT RESOLUTION

and conduct

To authorize and request the President to call/a White House Conference on Library and Information Services to be held not earlier than Sep. 1, 1989, and not later than Sep. 30, 1991, and for other ~~not later than 1989, and for other purposes.~~ 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 offers 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-

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 **SECTION 1. PRESIDENT TO CALL CONFERENCE IN 1989.**

4 The President is authorized to call/a ^{and Conduct} White House Con-
5 ference on Library and Information Services to be held not earlier than
6 ~~later than 1989~~ September 1, 1989, and not later than September 30, 1991.

7 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONFERENCE.**

8 (a) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the White House Con-
9 ference on Library and Information Services shall be to de-
10 velop recommendations for the further improvement of the
11 library and information services of the Nation and their use
12 by the public, in accordance with the findings set forth in the
13 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 OPTIONAL.**—State and ter-
25 ritorial delegates and alternates to the national conference

1 may participate in the respective State or territorial
2 conference.

3 **SEC. 3. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

4 (a) **DIRECTION BY COMMISSION.**—The Conference
5 shall be planned and conducted under the direction of the
6 National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 **SEC. 5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

19 (a) **COMPOSITION.**—There is established an advisory
20 committee of the Conference composed of—

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

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

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 (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 **SEC. 6. GIFTS AND TITLE TO CERTAIN PROPERTY.**

15 (a) **GIFTS.**—The Commission shall have authority to
16 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
24 resolution.

1 (b) REVERSION OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT AND MATE-
2 RIAL.—Materials and equipment acquired by the White
3 House Conference shall revert to the National Conference on
4 Libraries and Information Science after the close of the
5 White House Conference.

6 SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

7 For the purpose of this joint resolution—

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

10 (2) the term “Conference” means White House
11 Conference on Library and Information Services; and

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

17 SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

18 There are authorized to be appropriated without fiscal
19 year limitations such sums as may be necessary to carry out
20 this joint resolution. Such sums shall remain available for ob-
21 ligation until expended.

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