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National Commission on Libraries (1991): Correspondence 06

Charles E. Reid

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United States
National Commission on
Libraries and Information Science

March 23, 1990

The Honorable Dan Quayle
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed for consideration of the Congress is the "National Commission on Libraries and Information Science Act Amendments of 1990," a legislative proposal to amend the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science Act ("The Act") in order to improve the operation of the United States National Commission on Libraries and Information Science ("the Commission"). The Commission considers enactment of this proposal particularly important in carrying out its responsibilities to plan and conduct the White House Conference on Library and Information Services scheduled for July, 1991.

This legislative proposal would facilitate the decisionmaking process within the Commission by authorizing a member of the Commission to continue to serve on the Commission until a successor to that member is confirmed by the Senate, or until the last day of the Congress beginning after the date on which that member's term of office would have expired, whichever is earlier. This would alleviate the Commission's present administrative difficulties in maintaining a quorum of voting members as vacancies occur. It would also ensure a limited extension of the term of office for members whose successors have not received Senate confirmation.

In addition, this proposal would authorize a modest increase in the appropriation for the Commission, from \$750,000, as authorized under current law for each fiscal year since 1971, to \$777,000 for fiscal year 1991. This authorization level is provided for the Commission in the President's fiscal year 1991 budget proposal. The authorization of appropriations for the Commission for each fiscal year succeeding fiscal year 1991 would be such sums as may be necessary.

Finally, this proposal would delete the provision in current law requiring the Department of Education to provide administrative services to the Commission. Deletion of this provision clarifies the authority of the Commission, an independent agency, to obtain these services from any appropriate Federal agency and meets with the approval of the Department of Education.

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The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this legislation to the Congress.

An identical letter is being sent to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles E. Reid".

Charles E. Reid

Enclosures