

1991

# Letters: Outgoing (1990-1994): Correspondence 61

Claiborne Pell

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND  
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

May 10, 1991

Ms. Lynn Martin  
83 Doyle Avenue, #112  
Providence, Rhode Island 02906

Dear Ms. Martin:

Thank you very much for contacting me about proposed funding cuts for library services in Rhode Island.

I certainly share your concerns on this matter. While decisions affecting State library funding rest in the hands of Governor Sundlun and the General Assembly, the Federal government does support libraries nationwide through the Library Services and Construction Act. This year, the President proposed the elimination of a large portion of funding for the LSCA, a proposal that I strongly oppose due to its detrimental impact on libraries such as the Providence Public Library. The role that libraries play as a resource for scholars and the general public in this country can not be underestimated. Federal support for their services is vital and must be continued.

During the past several years, Congress has managed to thwart Administration attempts to cut library funding. I am truly hopeful that, despite current budget concerns, we will again manage to secure monies for acquisition, development and preservation of library collections; interlibrary communications and cooperation; support for impoverished libraries; literacy and community education programs; and services for the disabled.

I have always firmly supported the library assistance that is provided in the Library Services and Construction Act. You may rest assured that I will not retreat from that position and will do everything I can to ensure continued Federal library funding.

Warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Education,  
Arts and Humanities