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Alan Axelrod

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Coalition Of Library Advocates

April 18, 1994

Senator Claiborne deB. Pell 335 Russell Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell,

The American Library Association's Legislative Day is this Tuesday April 19. I had hoped to call upon you in person as part of R.I.'s contingent of concerned citizens and library professionals, to convey our interests in a strong federal role in improving library services. Since I am unable to be in Washington at this time, let me hereby introduce myself as Chairman of the R.I. Coalition of Library Advocates, and ask for your continued support for libraries in general and for one measure in particular.

This measure is the S-266 amendment to the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The amendment, sponsored by Senator Simon, would provide funding for school libraries to acquire books and other materials. You surely know how important up-to-date materials are to school libraries, and how crucial a role libraries play in the education of our young people. Please vote to include the substance of S-266 in the E.S.E.A. reauthorization.

Beyond this, I urge you to take whatever steps you can to ensure that libraries are an integral part of the implementation of the Goals 2000 education plan. Libraries are essential in preparing children to learn in school, and in enabling adults to achieve lifelong learning.

Thank you for your long-standing support of libraries and education.

Sincerely.

Alan Axelrod, Chairman