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National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (1989-1990): Correspondence 19

Thomas J. Galvin

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AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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June 13, 1989

Mr. Chase Untermeyer →
Director of Presidential Personnel
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

456-7060

Dear Mr. Untermeyer:

The American Library Association and its more than 48,000 members have a keen interest in the appointments that President Bush will make to the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science this year. On behalf of the Association, I am pleased to submit for the President's consideration the names of nine individuals whose resumes are enclosed and whom the Association's Executive Board regards as extremely well qualified for service on the Commission. They are, in alphabetical order:

Toni Carbo Bearman, Pittsburgh, PA
Charles Darrett Churchwell, Detroit, MI
→ Carol K. DiPrete, Providence, RI
Kenneth E. Dowlin, San Francisco, CA
Harold R. Johnson, Ann Arbor, MI
Norman J. Kelson, Bettendorf, IA
Beverly P. Lynch, Milwaukee, WI/Los Angeles, CA
James R. Voyles, Louisville, KY
→ Robert Wedgeworth, Hartsdale, NY

In addition, the Association wishes to affirm its support for Charles E. Reid of Paramus, NJ who currently serves on the Commission by virtue of a recess appointment.

In considering these appointments, the President will, we are confident, be mindful of the relevant provisions of Public Law 91-345, establishing the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, as subsequently amended by Public Law 93-29. Section 6(a) of the statute provides that:

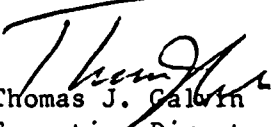
The Commission shall be composed of the Librarian of Congress and fourteen members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Five members of the Commission shall be professional librarians or information specialists, and the remainder shall be persons having special competence or interest in the needs of our society for library and information services, at least one of whom shall be knowledgeable with respect to the technological aspects of library and information services and sciences, and at least one other of whom shall be knowledgeable with respect to the library and information service and science needs of the elderly.

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The American Library Association is concerned that the present composition of the Commission does not meet the statutory requirement for representation of professional librarians or information specialists. For this reason, we wish to encourage the nomination of library and information professionals of national stature in the field. Dr. Bearman, Dr. Churchwell, Ms. DiPrete, Mr. Dowlin, Dr. Lynch and Mr. Wedgeworth are acknowledged national leaders in the library and information profession. In addition, Mr. Dowlin has an international reputation as a specialist in the technological aspects of library and information service. Mr. Johnson has achieved equal recognition as a specialist in the needs of the elderly. Mr. Kelinson and Mr. Voyles have both served with distinction, as has Mr. Reid, as library trustees and as leaders in the American Library Trustee Association. Our recommendations also reflect the importance of geographic balance and representation of the major regions of the country on the Commission.

I hope that these nominees will have the President's and your full consideration as individuals who would serve with distinction as members of the National Commission.

Sincerely Yours,


Thomas J. Calvin
Executive Director

TJG/js