



# CHIEF OFFICERS OF STATE LIBRARY AGENCIES

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The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 8, 2018

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) urge your support for the education, workforce, and economic development needs of Americans by providing at least \$187.6 million for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) in the Fiscal Year 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.

LSTA funding has an impact on every individual using public library services in every state and territory in the U.S. Each state and territory identifies the most appropriate uses of funds, implementing services and activities to meet their communities' unique economic, education, civic, and demographic needs. The return on investment of these federal funds is substantial and enhanced by each state's matching contribution and local funding.

America's libraries demonstrate a proud record of accomplishment that has benefited greatly from LSTA funding. COSLA greatly appreciates the support for LSTA in past years and urges you to continue and prioritize that support to help ensure that Americans of all ages have access to libraries, the Internet, and information services; the resources they need to develop literacy skills and achieve academically; and the services and tools to search for, find, and create jobs.

Thank you for your continued support in sustaining and strengthening our nation's libraries.

Sincerely,

Executive Director