



The Honorable Jodey C. Arrington
Room 1029 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

May 2, 2017

Dear Congressman Arrington:

Greetings from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. We are proud to share with you the important ways that Federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds aid the people in your district.

Libraries in Texas Congressional District 19 received valuable services and funds from LSTA totaling \$183,336 since fiscal year 2015. Here are a few details of how federal LSTA funds supported the library, information, and educational needs of your constituents.

- \$98,475 in grants for community impact, creating greater access to library collections and to establish "Family Place" centers in public libraries
- \$84,861 in subsidies and reimbursements for 2015 and 2016 to support the sharing of materials between libraries, maximizing the investment of taxpayers in library resources

Further, LSTA funds support our signature TexShare and TexQuest programs that ensure cost-effective access by virtually all Texans to valuable online information resources for school, professional, and personal use. Purchased on a statewide basis, these programs deliver a return on investment of at least 10 to one when compared with the cost of local purchase of the same resources.

TexShare Value - \$11,292,490; cost to libraries - \$173,972

TexQuest Value - \$3,599,700; cost to libraries - \$39,597

Texas receives nearly \$11 million in LSTA funds each year—the second highest award to any state. These federal funds return great value to Texans who need these resources in our increasingly information-based economy. Most importantly, these critical federal funds allow for broad, statewide programming that enables libraries to perform in concert in support of state and national priorities. Through federal LSTA funding, the State Library equips local libraries of all types to advance college readiness, workforce development, innovation, and much more.

Thank you for your support of libraries. Please let me know if you need further information on these matters.

Sincerely,

Mark Smith
Director and Librarian

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