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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

ACTION

APR 8 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: James T. Lynn

SUBJECT: Summary of Attached White House Conference on
Libraries Decision Paper

The attached paper presents for your decision a request from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) for a 1975 supplemental of \$3.5 million to conduct a White House Conference on Libraries. P.L. 93-568, which you signed into law on December 31, 1974, authorizes up to \$3.5 million for a Conference to be held no later than 1978. You introduced the House version of the White House Conference while a member of Congress. The principal issue is whether or not any supplemental for these purposes should be submitted at this time.

The NCLIS believes that the Conference is needed to develop recommendations for the improvement of libraries and information centers and their use by the public. Funds are requested at this time in order to initiate planning for 56 State and territorial conferences leading to the national conference. NCLIS staff believe a 34-month period is required for planning, coordination, implementation and closing out the Conference. The NCLIS also envisions the Conference as the vehicle for focusing attention on its long range program for increased support of libraries.

When the proposal for a White House Conference was being considered by the Congress as a free-standing bill, the previous Administration opposed it on the grounds that it would duplicate the mission of the NCLIS and acknowledge

an unwarranted Federal responsibility to support library programs. The Administration has before the Congress a proposal to phase-out traditional operating support for public libraries and substitute a limited demonstration and innovation program.

When this bill was enrolled for your action, it included amendments to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The amendments serve to correct deficiencies in the current law particularly with regard to the use of student records. OMB recommended signing the enrolled bill (S.J. Res. 40) in order to minimize the confusion among colleges and universities caused by the original FERPA. Corrective amendments to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 relating to sex discrimination in education activities also prompted OMB to recommend favorable treatment of the bill despite concerns over the authorization of the library Conference. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in its views letter concurred in our opposition to fund the Conference while supporting the basic bill.

The alternatives are:

1. Submit the supplemental request now (NCLIS Recommendation).

_____ Approve

2. Do not submit a supplemental request and do not convene a White House Conference on Libraries (OMB Recommendation).

_____ Approve

3. Defer a decision on the supplemental appropriations and the White House Conference until submission of the FY 1977 budget.

 Approve

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FROM: James *J.* Lynn

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on Libraries

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The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) has submitted a request for a 1975 supplemental appropriation to support a White House Conference on Libraries in 1977 with preliminary activities to begin in 1975. The issue embodied in this supplemental request is whether the Administration should submit any supplemental request for these purposes at this time.

Background

The Conference would be composed of local, State, regional and national institutions, organizations, and persons with special knowledge of technology related to library services, and representatives of governments and the public. The purpose would be to develop recommendations for the improvement of libraries and information centers and their use by the public.

Planning and direction of the Conference would be carried out by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS), an independent executive branch agency established in 1970 to develop plans and advise the President and the Congress on the implementation of national policy concerning library and informational needs of the Nation.

The NCLIS is authorized to make technical and financial assistance available to the States to prepare for the Conference. An advisory committee is also established to assist in planning and conducting the Conference. You would appoint 15 of the 28 members. Following the Conference, a report would be submitted to you and the Congress and you would be required to submit recommendations regarding the report to the Congress.

The White House Conference was opposed by the previous Administration for the following reasons:

- Forums already exist for the identification and discussion of library and information service ideas.
- Holding the Conference would acknowledge an unwarranted Federal responsibility for library programs and provide a national forum for recommending a major expansion in Federal support.
- A White House Conference would be in conflict with the Administration's current legislative and budgetary posture which seeks to phase down Federal support of library programs.
- The Library Partnership Act, first proposed in the 1975 Budget and continued as a \$20 million 1976 Budget proposal, has been submitted to the Congress recommending focused Federal support of libraries in the areas of resource sharing and information networking demonstrations.

S.J. Resolution 40 also included amendments to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The amendments serve to correct deficiencies in the current law particularly with regard to the use of student records. OMB recommended signing the enrolled bill (S.J. Res. 40) in order to minimize the confusion among colleges and universities caused by the original FERPA. Corrective amendments to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 relating to sex discrimination in education activities also prompted OMB to recommend favorable treatment of the bill despite concerns over the authorization of the library Conference.

You introduced the House version of the White House Conference (H.J. Resolution 734) while a member of Congress. However, your Administration has not supported the resolution as it relates to the Conference.

Alternatives

(1) Approve the supplemental appropriation request now (NCLIS recommendation).

Arguments for:

- Complies with the legislative intent and recognizes the likelihood of favorable congressional action with or without support from the Administration.
- Provides a national forum to discuss policy with respect to libraries and information services.
- Could serve as a useful means of demonstrating the ability of the States to provide leadership in the field of library and information services through the emphasis on State involvement.
- The cost of the Conference does not represent a fiscal burden and was reduced from \$10,000,000 to such sums as needed but not to exceed \$3,500,000.

- Heavy criticism of the Administration can be expected if the Conference is not funded, particularly in light of the \$52 million library resources rescission and deferral reversal by the Congress and your introduction of H.J. Res. 734 calling for a White House Conference.

(2) Do not submit a supplemental request and do not convene a White House Conference on Libraries.

Arguments for:

- S.J. Res. 40 was an authorization, not a mandate to hold a Conference.
- In considering the authorization, OMB recommended signing contingent upon resistance to any attempt to fund the White House Conference. HEW also indicated in its views letter of the authorization that it did not plan to request funds in light of present fiscal constraints.
- Providing a forum will increase pressure for an expanded Federal role in the operational support of library programs. The Federal Government now supports something less than 11% of library expenditures in the Nation. The NCLIS, Conference host, is preparing a national library plan to coincide with the Conference which is expected to call for several hundred millions of Federal dollars for libraries.
- Alternative mechanisms are available including the NCLIS planning process, and State and local activities to identify and resolve library and information service issues.
- The Conference would jeopardize the Administration's legislative strategy to phase down support of most

library programs and focus resources on demonstrations through the Library Partnership Act. This is opposed by the NCLIS.

(3) Defer a decision on the supplemental appropriations request until submission of the FY 1977 budget.

Arguments for deferral:

- The Conference must be called not later than 1978. The process for holding a conference of this size need not take 35 months as claimed by the NCLIS. Additional funds can be requested during FY 1976.
- Acting on the supplemental request at this time limits future options including the Administration's legislative proposal for library support.

Arguments against deferral:

- The NCLIS desires to initiate planning as soon as possible. The supplemental appropriation would allow the hiring of additional staff.
- The NCLIS has laid the groundwork for action on the Conference through its planning process. Delay will result in pressure from the library community on the Congress to proceed through the appropriations process.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1975



MR. PRESIDENT:

The attached memorandum has been staffed and generated the following:

Buchen (Lazarus) -- Support Option 1 for the reasons set forth on page 3 of OMB memorandum.

Cannon -- Option 2.

Goldwin -- I agree with OMB on this one, not to convene a Conference. I would not object, however, to Option 3, to defer a decision. Such a conference can certainly be organized in less than 34 months. Any library conference that did take 34 months would be too elaborate to be justified.

Marsh -- Option 3.

Don

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 18, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM LYNN

FROM:

JERRY H. JONES

SUBJECT:

Summary of Attached White House
Conference on Libraries Decision Paper

Your memorandum to the President of April 8 on the above subject has been reviewed and Option 3 -- defer a decision on the supplemental appropriations and the White House Conference until submission of the FY 1977 budget -- was approved.

Please follow-up with the appropriate action.

Thank you.

cc: Don Rumsfeld
Ken Lazarus
Jim Cannon
Bob Goldwin
Jack Marsh

STAFFING

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 10, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION: Phil Buchen *jr*
Jim Cannon
Bob Goldwin *jr*
Jack Marsh *jr*

cc (for information):

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Monday, April 14, 1975

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

Lynn memo (4/8/75) re: Summary of Attached
~~Water~~ House Conference on Libraries Decision Paper

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

4/17 - Option 2 Cannon
per WH.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jerry H. Jones
Staff Secretary

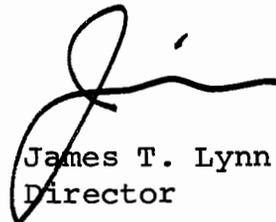
APR 9 1975

APR 8 1975

NOTE FOR DONALD RUMSFELD

Subject: Decision on a Proposed White House Conference on
Libraries

The attached is a supplemental appropriations request from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science for \$3.5 million to fund a White House Conference on Library and Information Services. This is a small expenditure issue. Would you prefer I handle orally rather than sending in the request?



James T. Lynn
Director

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 10, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION: ✓ Phil Buchen
Jim Cannon
Bob Goldwin
Jack Marsh

cc (for information):

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Monday, April 14, 1975

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

Lynn memo (4/8/75) re: Summary of Attached
White House Conference on Libraries Decision Paper

ACTION REQUESTED:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks |

REMARKS:

Support Option 1 for the reasons set forth on page 3 of OMB memorandum.

Ken Lazarus

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Jerry H. Jones
Staff Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 10, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION: Phil Buchen
Jim Cannon
~~Bob Goldwin~~
Jack Marsh

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REMARKS:

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not to convene a Conference.*

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option 3, to defer a decision. Such
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in less than 34 months. Any library confer-
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The alternatives are:

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_____ Approve

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_____ Approve

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_____ Approve

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Alternatives

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Arguments for:

- Complies with the legislative intent and recognizes the likelihood of favorable congressional action with or without support from the Administration.
- Provides a national forum to discuss policy with respect to libraries and information services.
- Could serve as a useful means of demonstrating the ability of the States to provide leadership in the field of library and information services through the emphasis on State involvement.
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THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

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*due: 4/14
noon*

Date: April 10, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION: Phil Buchen
Jim Cannon
Bob Goldwin
Jack Marsh

cc (for information):

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Monday, April 14, 1975

Time: noon

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ACTION REQUESTED:

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For Your Recommendations

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For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Options #3

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Staff Secretary

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