



May 17, 2017

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray:

The Association of American Publishers is the leading trade association for book and journal publishers in the United States, representing some 400 members who invest in and publish fiction, nonfiction, textbooks and educational materials, children's works, professional content, and scholarly works. We write to support federal funding for libraries in FY 2018 and hope that you will make libraries a priority as you weigh appropriations decisions.

We specifically urge you to maintain funding for the programs covered by the Library Services and Technology Act, and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy Program, respectively, which together provide essential funds to libraries throughout the country and are essential to maintaining modern facilities and patron services.

As you may know, publishers and libraries frequently conduct business at the intersection of copyright law and technology and do not always agree on law and policy objectives. We agree wholeheartedly, however, on the public importance of libraries and share a commitment to building an increasingly literate, educated society. A healthy library sector is an important investment in the future of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maria A. Pallante". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Maria" being the most prominent.

Maria A. Pallante  
President and CEO