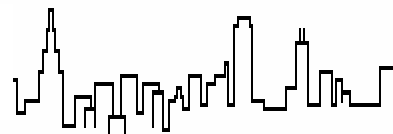


# CHICAGO ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

P.O. Box 1767  
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November 15, 2006

Hon. Senator Richard Durbin  
Kluczynski Federal Office Building  
230 S. Dearborn St.  
Suite 3892  
Chicago, IL 60604-1483

Dear Senator Durbin,

On behalf of the Chicago Association of Law Libraries, I am writing to thank you for your letter of November 3, in which you and 17 of your Senate colleagues directed the Senate Appropriations Committee leadership to stop the EPA from dismantling its library system.

The Administration has defended the closing of EPA's libraries as a cost-conscious effort to streamline the agency and bring its libraries into the digital age. However these claims ring false in the wake of EPA's 2004 report that its libraries and librarians saved the agency millions of dollars, and amid clear indications that EPA has done no planning or budgeting for the digitization of its library collections. We are optimistic that the changeover in Senate leadership will aid the Appropriations Committee and the Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies in prodding the EPA toward a more rational approach.

As recipient of CALL's 2005 Legislator of the Year award, your efforts on issues that are important to libraries are already familiar to our membership. We thank you for your ongoing support, we congratulate you on your elevation to Senate Majority Whip, and we look forward to continuing to work closely with you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Lu Linnane, President 2006-07  
Chicago Association of Law Libraries