



May 1, 2025

U. S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
30 W. Mifflin St. Ste 700
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Senator Baldwin,

On behalf of the Dane County Library Board, I urge you to reverse the President's executive order from March 14, which seeks to dismantle the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the only federal agency that funds library services nationwide.

IMLS is vital to our community, providing services to students, families, veterans, businesses, job seekers, individuals with disabilities, and seniors. The president's executive order puts these services at risk. Here in Dane County, the removal of IMLS funding will reduce resources in the 28 locally funded libraries that provide services to these individuals.

IMLS provides funding to the South Central Library System that supports libraries in various ways: integrated library system migrations, programming for underrepresented patrons, Library Board Trustee training, and professional development and training.

IMLS funding makes up just 0.003% of the federal budget; this funding aids librarians in providing free, non-partisan services that benefit whole communities. Eliminating IMLS would have serious, lasting consequences for people everywhere.

In 2018, Congress overwhelmingly reauthorized IMLS, and President Trump signed it into law. The March 14 order contradicts this bipartisan commitment to ensuring access to essential information services.

The Dane County Library Boards strongly opposes defunding IMLS and calls on Congress to overturn this executive order and maintain level funding for IMLS in fiscal year 2026.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jimmy Cheffen, President
Dane County Library Board