

# SUNSHINE PERIOD



## ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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March 24, 1995

Secretary William A. Caton  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St., N.W.  
Washington DC 20554

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Dear Secretary Caton:

The Illinois Library Association Board of Directors unanimously endorsed a proposal that would change the regulations covering the consumer productivity dividend (CPD). This change would provide incentives for local telephone companies to connect schools and libraries to the information superhighway (CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers.)

The Illinois Library Association Board, representing a membership of about thirty-two hundred (3200) librarians, feels that this use of the CPD's is a useful tool to contribute to the national goal of connecting all schools and libraries to the internet. Our understanding is that the proposal would generate approximately three hundred million (\$300,000,000) dollars per year that local telephone companies could use to finance investments in library and educational infrastructures in their service regions.

One of the problems libraries continually face is telecommunication costs. It is increasingly difficult for libraries with small budgets to be able to provide their patrons with access to current information. This, in turn, inhibits the patron's ability to learn database searching skills that they need in today's work force.

We believe that this innovative proposal on behalf of the nation's libraries and schools will assist us in remaining an information rich society with access to that information for all citizens. Please give this proposal your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Lee A. Logan, President  
Illinois Library Association

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