

**Outside Witness Testimony of
Gavin Baker, Deputy Director, Public Policy and Government Relations
American Library Association**

**Before the Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch**

**On Fiscal Year 2021 Funding for the
Library of Congress and Government Publishing Office**

May 1, 2020

Chair Hyde-Smith, Ranking Member Murphy, and Members of the Subcommittee:

On behalf of the American Library Association, thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony regarding Legislative Branch Appropriations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021. We support for the Library of Congress and the Government Publishing Office, which provide valuable services to libraries and the public nationwide.

Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, commitment to preserving and advancing American culture. The Library serves not only Congress, but also libraries across the country and the American public. The Library celebrated its 220th birthday this year, and it continues to modernize its services and facilities to meet current and future needs.

Visitor Experience Initiative will highlight its unique collections and inspire millions of visitors to learn, create, and innovate. Despite temporary closures as a public health precaution in response to COVID-19, upon reopening the Library will resume its position as a leading onsite visitors in FY 2019. The planned multi-year investments of the Visitor Experience Initiative will strengthen the al heritage.

earch far beyond the walls of its buildings through activities such as the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled and the Veterans History Project.

The National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled

