



Washington Library Association  
PO Box 33808  
Seattle, WA 98133

November 20, 2019

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
455 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Alexander and Senator Murray,

The Washington Library Association endorses R. Crosby Kemper III for the position of Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). We believe his 14 plus years dedicated to libraries and his strategic know-how will be critical for the health and longevity of the IMLS. His ability to engage the community in broad dialogue will be essential for continued exploration of how libraries can better serve members and patrons.

Kemper is a member of both the American Library Association and the Public Library Association and currently serves as executive director for the Kansas City Public Library. He has also served as chair of the board of directors of the Schools, Health, & Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB) which works to bring affordable broadband connections to anchor institutions in communities nationwide. Kemper is a passionate advocate for increasing accessibility, adapting to the evolving needs of libraries and museums, and envisioning libraries as sites of economic development.

WLA places our full support behind R. Crosby Kemper III and encourages the Senate to proceed with a swift confirmation.

Respectfully,  
WLA Board of Directors, on behalf of the  
**Washington Library Association**