

WASHINGTON HOTLINE



Carol C. Henderson
Deputy Director, ALA Washington Office

(202) 547-4440; (ALA0025)

Bush budget. Weeks of congressional budget analysis and budget hearings still have not elicited much detail on the Bush Administration budget revisions for FY 1990. Of a total of \$14.3 billion in proposed new initiatives (none for libraries), only \$441 million would go to education. A long list of domestic programs are to be available for cuts to pay for Bush initiatives, including all Education Department discretionary programs (libraries are in this category). According to Office of Management and Budget Director Richard Darman at budget hearings, this category "is by definition a category that, from our perspective, is not as important."

Adding to the congressional disenchantment with a budget well received at first is the varying definition of a "freeze." For defense, it means an increase for inflation. For domestic programs in the pool to be cut, it means not only no inflationary adjustment to maintain current services, but a freeze at FY 1989 "outlay" levels, or the amount actually paid out during the fiscal year. An outlay freeze would require an estimated 22 percent cut in library programs (based on the Congressional Budget Office's current policy baseline).

Education Department officials, including Library Programs Director Anne Mathews, outlined the Reagan FY90 budget for libraries on March 8, saying: "Pending the outcome of negotiations with Congress, however, we are treating the Reagan budget proposals as if they are Bush proposals. We hope many of them wind up in the eventual compromise budget solution."

A new legislative proposal to replace LSCA and HEA II programs is still anticipated, but is under review at OMB. Pressed in questioning as to whether the \$137.2 million recommendation was a Bush or a Reagan number, department officials said they were simply "the numbers," but stressed that for FY90 appropriations, library programs were in the Bush budget's category to be negotiated.

Satanic Verses. The Senate and House have passed measures condemning as state-sponsored terrorism the threat of the government of Iran and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to assassinate Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, and the officers of Viking, the U.S. publishers of the book, and declaring the commitment of the U.S. government to protect the right of any person to write, publish, sell, buy, and read books without fear of intimidation and violence. S.Res. 72 was introduced by Sen. Moynihan (D-NY) and passed on February 28; H.Res. 102 was introduced by Rep. George Miller (D-CA) and passed on March 14. The Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Terrorism, Narcotics, and International Operations held a hearing on March 8 on the implications of the Iranian threats.

ALA President F. William Summers sent a telegram on February 17 to President Bush urging the President to make a public statement condemning the Ayatollah's death threat of February 14 and bringing world opinion to bear. ALA also joined with several writers' organizations in a February 17 letter to the Iranian ambassador to the United Nations. At a February 23 press conference at the National Press Club, ALA President-Elect Patricia Berger

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REFERENCE LIBRARIAN. The University of Akron is seeking candidates for the position of reference librarian. This is a 12-month contract-professional position with 22 days vacation and standard benefits package. The salary is \$20,000. The reference librarian furnishes assistance to the head of the Science and Technology Department in the provision of reference, information, and instructional services in the University Library; assists in the planning, development, delivery, and evaluation of information services in the Science and Technology Library. The reference librarian oversees the reference collection which involves selecting materials, de-selecting, and providing training in the use of reference materials; assists the department head in planning effective reference services; provides general reference service for patrons; supervises the circulation system procedures and solves circulation problems; acts as liaison to the cataloging and acquisitions departments by recognizing and resolving ordering and cataloging conflicts. An MLS from an ALA-accredited institution, library experience, and strong written and oral communications skills are required. A science library background and academic library experience is preferred. To apply, send a letter of application, resume, and three references to: Steve Aby, Search Committee Chair, Bierce Library, The University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325. The deadline for applications is May 15, 1989. The University of Akron is an Equal Education and Employment Institution.

ROMANCE LANGUAGES LIBRARIAN, University of California, Irvine. Responsibilities include reference assistance; database searching; instruction; collection development and liaison with the School of Humanities, specifically with the Departments of Spanish or Portuguese, French and Italian, and the program in Linguistics. Required qualifications: ALA-accredited MLS degree in Spanish or French or commensurate experience; good reading knowledge of Spanish and French; demonstrated commitment to public service; excellent communication skills; basic computer literacy. Appointment at Assistant or Associate Librarian rank, salary range \$25,380--\$44,676. Applications received by May 1, 1989, will receive first consideration, but will be accepted until the position is filled. Send application letter with 1) a complete statement of qualifications; 2) resume of education and experience; and 3) the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to: Anne Rimmer, Library Personnel Office, University of California, Irvine, P.O. Box 19557, Irvine, CA 92713. Telephone: (714) 856-7115. AA/EOP.

TECHNICAL SERVICES LIBRARIAN. Needed to run highly automated cataloging operation using OCLC & NOTIS. Position requires extensive knowledge of MARC formats, AACR2, cataloging, and microcomputers. Must be capable of supervising 3 clerks and student assistants. ALA-accredited Master of Library Science required. Salary circa \$21,000 dependent on qualifications and experience. 12-months with one month vacation, excellent fringe benefits, academic status with faculty rank. Send letter of interest, resume, and placement file to: Charles H. Kemp, Head Librarian, Missouri Southern State College, 3950 Newman Road, Joplin, MO 64801-1595. Closing date is April 30. EOE/AA.

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read the statement of the newly formed International Committee for Free Expression protesting the threat to assassinate Rushdie, and responded to reporters' questions. ALA joined 26 organizations and about 70 individuals who had signed the statement. On February 22, ALA joined with the Association of American Publishers and the American Booksellers Association to take out a full-page ad in *The New York Times* proclaiming the right of free people to write, publish, sell, buy, and read books.