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March 14, 2019

Mr. Jon Parrish Peede
Chairman
National Endowment for the Humanities
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Chairman Peede:

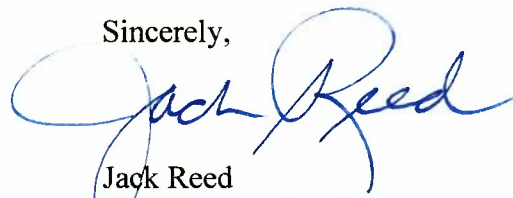
I write in support of the Providence Public Library's (PPL) grant application in partnership with the Rhode Island Historical Society (RIHS) for funding through the National Endowment for the Humanities' National Digital Newspaper Program. Funding through this program will support the continued effort of the Providence Public Library to digitize important historical documents and make them accessible to the public through its Rhode Island Historical Newspaper Digitization Project.

The Rhode Island Historical Society holds a remarkable collection of microfilm reels of 314 Rhode Island newspaper titles that ceased publication prior to 1923. However, this collection, critical to understanding the development of both the state and the nation's rich history, remains unavailable for research. This grant funding will enable the Providence Public Library, in partnership with the Rhode Island Historical Society, to complete a full inventory of master microfilm reels, digitize at least 100,000 pages, and market and promote these digital resources to the broader community.

Funding through this grant program will provide critical resources to help preserve these publications and make them available to a wider audience. I support the Providence Public Library's project and request your consideration of this application in accordance with all rules and regulations.

If I can be of assistance to you in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Christopher Albert at my Providence office at (401) 528-5200.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator