July 2, 2009

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
517 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
FAX: (202) 228-2856

Dear Senator Cornyn:

On behalf of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and the over 13,000 members we represent, we are writing to applaud you for reintroducing S. 1373 the Federal Research Public Access Act, which will ensure all U.S. taxpayers have free and timely access to articles reporting the results of government-funded research projects.

ACRL, a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is the only individual membership organization in North America that develops programs, products and services to meet the unique needs of academic and research librarians. ACRL endorsed your bill in 2006 when it was first introduced as a landmark event in the ongoing effort to establish public access to federally funded research. Since then, we have seen remarkable progress in access to research results with the NIH public access policy. This bill is an important step toward continuing to reform the system of scholarly communication to be more responsive to the needs of the academy, reflecting the nature of scholarship and research as a public good.

Your bill will significantly expand access to critical research information and help to accelerate the pace of discovery and innovation. During tight budgetary times, your legislation will also help ensure all government departments and agencies that invest significant sums in extramural research will achieve a greater return on their investment.

Thank you for your leadership on the important issue of public access to federally funded research. Please don’t hesitate to let us know how our community can be of assistance in building support for S. 1373. We look forward to working with you to secure its passage.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen K. Davis
ACRL Executive Director
mdavis@ala.org

Erika C. Linke
ACRL President
el08@andrew.cmu.edu

cc:
Senator Durbin, fax (202) 228-0400
Senator Burris, fax (202) 228-3333
Representative Kirk, fax (202) 225-0837

Senator Casey, fax: (202) 228-0604
Senator Specter, fax: 202-228-1229
Representative Doyle, fax: (202)225-3084
July 2, 2009

The Honorable Joseph Lieberman  
United States Senate  
706 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
FAX: (202) 224-9750

Dear Senator Lieberman:

On behalf of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and the over 13,000 members we represent, we are writing to applaud you for reintroducing S. 1373 the Federal Research Public Access Act, which will ensure all U.S. taxpayers have free and timely access to articles reporting the results of government-funded research projects.

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Erika C. Linke  
ACRL President  
Associate Dean of University Libraries  
Carnegie Mellon University Hunt Library  
el08@andrew.cmu.edu

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