

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2025

Mr. Keith E. Sonderling
Acting Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services
955 L'Enfant Plaza SW #4000
Washington, D.C. 20024

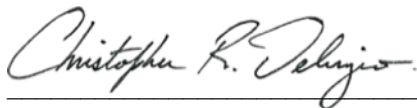
Dear Acting Director Sonderling,

We are writing to urge you to reverse the decisions to terminate federal grants and contracts at the Institute of Museum and Library Services in Western Pennsylvania. We have heard from constituents that they are worried about how Department of Governmental Efficiency (DOGE) is plundering our government and dismantling our cultural initiatives within the region. Several historical and cultural institutions in Western Pennsylvania are relying on previously awarded federal funds to complete significant projects. Now, these regional institutions are receiving impersonal, templated emails and letters from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, clawing back funding that was promised to constituents. These termination letters are worrisome, and we request the restoration of these IMLS grant and contract awards.

In the last year alone, the Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded over \$11,700,000 to libraries and museums in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, according to USASpending.gov. This funding goes towards advancing library and museum services, to which millions of Americans rely on. As explained by the American Library Association, this funding goes towards technology classes for jobseekers, services for people with disabilities, library delivery for older Americans, summer reading programs for families, and more. IMLS funding makes a real, concrete difference in the lives of Americans every day.

Institutions like our Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, and Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens have been targeted by these illegal federal funding cuts. As such, we urge the Institute of Museum and Library Services to immediately reinstate all previously awarded federal funding in Western Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress