The Honorable Jeff Flake
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Flake:

The recent nomination of Dr. Carla Hayden of the Baltimore Public Library to the position of Librarian of Congress is of utmost importance to the Arizona Library Association (AzLA). In this age of information and innovation, there is no professional better equipped to provide direction to the nation’s foremost library than a professional librarian.

Dr. Hayden has frontline experience in working with and for community members as she most recently exemplified in keeping the doors open at the Baltimore Public Library. During times of community unrest, she helped to ensure that individuals had safe places to move forward in the uncertain times. Academic, public, special, corporate and school libraries throughout the United States are centers of education, technology and community.

Providing for an educated society is central to the democratic process. Libraries are places of knowledge and inquiry where individuals are free to explore all possibilities and find their voice in the democratic process. Open access to information is both fundamental and transformational in the lives of individuals and the growth of communities. The members of AzLA feel that Dr. Hayden is capable of shining a light on the Library of Congress and the work that is happening through libraries in communities throughout this nation.

The Library of Congress is a national treasure that sets the standard for libraries throughout our country. Thank you for your consideration in supporting the nomination and appointment of Dr. Carla Hayden to the position of Librarian of Congress.

Sincerely,

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