

**United States Senate**  
Washington, DC 20510-2503

September 29, 1998

The Honorable Strom Thurmond  
217 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Thurmond:

As you know, the "Digital Millennium Copyright Act" is currently in conference. I have been contacted by several prominent charitable and educational institutions from Missouri, each have indicated that there may be an attempt to attach the "Collections of Information Privacy [sic] [Antipiracy] Act (H.R. 2652) to legislation. I share their concern that this legislation will have significant and negative impact on research and education.

While this language, Title V in the conference bill, attempts to create a new form of intellectual property protection for databases or collections of information there is concern that will undermine the basic mechanisms of scientific and educational data exchange. My constituents have raised the concern that this bill would severely limit researchers ability to utilize important information. This legislation has not received a hearing or Senate consideration. Language that may create such hardships for these institutions deserves careful consideration by the Senate so all the possible consequences may be studied.

I urge you to reject any efforts to include this language in the underlying bill which enjoyed overwhelming support in the Senate. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Christopher S. Bond

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[ARL Federal Relations and Information Policy](#)  
[Copyright and Intellectual Property Table of Contents](#)

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