



## Let Congress and the White House Hear Your Voice

Hello members and subscribers,

Our board members have been continuing to meet with congressional offices to discuss the challenges facing researchers and educate Congress on the importance of access to our nation's records. We plan to continue these meetings throughout 2022.

Our former board member Jessica Taylor (now serving on the board of the Association of Professional Genealogists) has drafted a petition asking the National Archives to reopen its research rooms at pre-pandemic levels. Please sign this petition and share it widely on your social media accounts and ask others to share it:

**[PETITION TO OPEN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES](#)**

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## Contact Your Senators and House Representatives

Last year, the ARA met with 120 congressional offices (including 56 in the Senate). In each meeting, we asked Congress for targeted funding to increase the number of public-facing staff, expand research hours, and upgrade NARA's IT system. After two years of closures, we need to ask Congress to take action and reopen the National Archives. The 2022 budget which is currently being drafted is the perfect opportunity.

Please contact the offices of your Senators and House Representatives and ask them to support targeted funding in the 2022 budget that reopens research rooms of the National Archives.

- To find your Congress member and send them this message, visit <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>
- To find your Senate representative, visit <https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

We hope you are all hanging in there and hope to see you researching again in the near future. Thank you all so much!

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