RESOLUTION ON LSCA AND HEA II APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, The Clinton Administration has stated a clear, admirable, and necessary goal that by the year 2000, all schools, libraries, and hospitals should be connected to the National Information Infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The federal role in support of library programs has been concentrated on three critically important and appropriate national goals: to extend outreach to those for whom library service requires extra effort or special materials; to utilize new technologies to identify, preserve, and share library and information resources across institutional, local, and state boundaries; and to support education, research, and demonstrations in the library and information science field; and

WHEREAS, Federal support of Higher Education Act and Library Services and Construction Act library programs has linked libraries electronically and made library online catalogs searchable through the Internet and could now make the content of library collections available electronically, which will result in library resources being tapped more than ever by users outside the local tax base or beyond the campus; and

WHEREAS, The federal stimulus for HEA and LSCA library programs is critical to this endeavor; and

WHEREAS, The Clinton Administration’s FY 1995 budget would eliminate LSCA Title II, Library Construction, LSCA Title V, Foreign Language Materials, and LSCA Title VI, Library Literacy Programs; and all HEA II library programs; and

WHEREAS, FY94 funds for LSCA II continue to be proposed for rescission in various budget-cut proposals, despite the fact that FY94 funds have already been released to a number of states; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge Congress to remember that the first priority of WHCLIS was the Omnibus Youth Legislation and to reject the Administration’s cuts and fund LSCA and HEA library programs at current levels of funding; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge Congress to recognize that FY94 funds for LSCA II are not available for rescission and should not be included in budget-cut amendments; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees, the Department of Education, and other appropriate House and Senate committees.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Los Angeles, California
February 9, 1994
(Council Document 21.1)