

# ALA American Library Association

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1858, THE CONSUMER AND INVESTOR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT OF 1999

**WHEREAS,** The bipartisan leadership of the House Commerce Committee has introduced H.R. 1858, the Consumer and Investor Access to Information Act of 1999; and

**WHEREAS,** H.R. 1858 is a responsible and balanced approach to protecting commercial databases against piracy while protecting future value-added uses of data; and

**WHEREAS,** H.R. 1858 reaffirms a basic information policy of this country, that facts are in the public domain and cannot be owned, while providing strong new protection against database theft; and

**WHEREAS,** H.R. 1858 recognizes that government information, including government information contained in commercial databases, should remain in the public domain; and

**WHEREAS,** H.R. 1858 will not harm legitimate research and education activities and will preserve the fair use of information, but will also prevent unfair competition; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** That the American Library Association support H.R. 1858, the Consumer and Investor Access to Information Act of 1999, and encourage its members to ask their legislators to cosponsor and support H.R. 1858.

Adopted by the Council of the  
American Library Association  
New Orleans, LA  
June 30, 1999  
(Council Document 20.8)