

RESOLUTION ON FUNDING FOR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

- WHEREAS, The Library of Congress serves a dual role as the library for the Congress and the nation, and
- WHEREAS, Congress has long generously shared its library with citizens of the United States whether students or scholars or librarians, and
- WHEREAS, The Library of Congress has provided bibliographic cataloging information for the nation's libraries since 1901, and
- WHEREAS, The Library of Congress has created automated bibliographic data bases central to providing access needed by all citizens to information and materials for further education, and
- WHEREAS, Creation of these data bases and the sharing of bibliographic information has resulted in economic savings in cataloging and other costs for school, public and academic libraries, at a time when costs faced by libraries are increasing at a rate greater than the general rate of inflation, and
- WHEREAS, Over 600,000 blind and physically handicapped citizens depend on the Library of Congress for talking books and other materials to bring them the latest news and current books, and
- WHEREAS, The Library of Congress serves as the major center providing research materials from all over the world for Congress and for citizen-scholars, and
- WHEREAS, The reduction of the services of the Library of Congress would handicap not only the Congress but also thousands of libraries and the citizens they serve throughout the country; now
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the American Library Association strongly urge that Congress maintain its current level of support in appropriations for the Library of Congress and that it call to the attention of the Senate and House the importance of the Library of Congress as a major contributor to the efficiency and effectiveness of the nation's libraries as a major co-operating partner in meeting the nation's information needs.

Adopted by the Council of the  
American Library Association  
New York, New York, July 3, 1980