

Resolution on ECIA Reauthorization

- WHEREAS, The survival and security of the Country and and the perpetuation of a democratic form of government mandate that all citizens acquire the best education possible to use information and the technological tools of a modern society and compete effectively in the international marketplace; and
- WHEREAS, Elementary and secondary school students need access to information and a wide variety of materials for fostering their critical thinking skills and for helping them develop lifelong learning skills; and
- WHEREAS, Teachers need school library resources when helping young people make intelligent decisions, cope with a range of ideas, and explore problems from a variety of points of view; and
- WHEREAS, The current emphasis on academics in our schools and improved student achievement have increased the pressure on students to access information and have also put new demands on school library collections; and
- WHEREAS, Libraries in public and private elementary and secondary schools have benefited from federal funds since 1965; and
- WHEREAS, The use of education funds for school library resources extends the cost benefit of federal funding because such resources are used by all children in a school building, support every curriculum subject area, and continue to be used by new students year after year; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association recommend that Congress include a component for school library resources in the reauthorization of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA); and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association recommend that Congress include under "authorized activities" in any targeting of federal education funds under the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act, the acquisition and utilization of school library resources and instructional equipment and materials; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association recommend that Congress ensure that school library media personnel be eligible for any training programs authorized and for participation on associated advisory committees.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Chicago, Illinois
January 21, 1987
(Council Document #26.2)