

RESOLUTION ON ACCESS TO CURRENT INFORMATION

WHEREAS, Federal libraries and their information resources are key components of the information infrastructure of the United States as well as vital to the program efforts of Federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, Ready access to current information is essential to the effective operation of those libraries and thus to the efficient operation of government; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, the Department of Defense placed a moratorium on the purchase of magazines, newspapers, subscriptions, and materials for its libraries; and

WHEREAS, The inability to obtain current information for research and national and international decision-making adversely affects the economic well being and security of the nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge the President of the United States, the U. S. Congress, and the Heads of the Departments and agencies to:

Seek other appropriate means to control expenditures rather than limiting procurement of library materials.

Recognize the need to establish a sustaining budget line item for the acquisition of mission-related literature and to provide for nominal growth to accommodate changes in mission objectives.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Washington, D. C.
January 11, 1989
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