



RESOLUTION OF REAFFIRMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WHEREAS, The United States Government Printing Office (GPO) was established by the Congress in 1860 to:

1. End corruption and mismanagement in government printing;
2. Take advantage of improved printing technology and centralized procurement;
and,
3. Administer in 1895 the depository library system;

and,

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the GPO has faithfully met these goals, and has further

1. Established extensive mechanisms that provide comprehensive collections of government information to each state with regional depositories, and, in cooperation with selective depositories, provide key government information to residents of virtually every congressional district through the Federal Depository Library Program;
2. Developed efficient and economical distribution mechanisms for government information through the Federal Depository Library Program;
3. Followed the mandates for efficiency of government by downsizing and modernizing its operations;
4. Brought the Federal Depository Library Program into the electronic era through implementation of the GPO Access Act; and
5. Fostered an informed citizenry through its administration of the Federal Depository Library Program;

and,

WHEREAS, Congress has designated many of these depository libraries; and

WHEREAS, Legislation has been proposed to curtail or abolish the GPO; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association commend the Government Printing Office for the timely development and implementation of the GPO Access program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge Congress to continue the role of the GPO in assuring the dissemination of government information to the public and fully funding the GPO Access program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge Congress to hold extensive geographically dispersed hearings that include a broad spectrum of public users before taking any action to reduce, eliminate, or privatize the GPO; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the appropriate congressional committees and federal officials.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
February 8, 1995
(Council Document 20.5)