



**RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED REVISION
OF OMB CIRCULAR A-130**

- WHEREAS,** The Office of Management and Budget has asked for public comment on a proposed revision of Circular No. A-130, Management of Federal Information Resources, (57 FR 18296-18305; April 29, 1992); and
- WHEREAS,** Ready, equal and equitable access to unclassified government information and publications is a primary tenet of a free society; and
- WHEREAS,** Government information regardless of medium or form is government information; and
- WHEREAS,** Increasing numbers of government publications are being produced in electronic formats; and
- WHEREAS,** For over a century, the Federal Depository Library System has been the key element in the distribution of government publications to general, business and research users on a wide geographic basis; and
- WHEREAS,** The draft circular requires agencies to "Ensure that government publications are made available to depository libraries through the facilities of the Government Printing Office, as required by law (44 U.S. C. 1902)"; and
- WHEREAS,** A growing number of government publications, formerly disseminated in print, are now disseminated only in electronic formats; and
- WHEREAS,** OMB's interpretation of the definition of government publication (44 U.S.C. 1901) excludes electronic publications, providing a loophole that permits agencies to bypass their depository obligations when publications are in electronic form; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the American Library Association urge the Office of Management and Budget to revise its interpretation of "government publication," so that government information in any medium or form be considered a "government publication," and that such publications be made available to the public through the Depository Library Program and other channels; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of Management and Budget, appropriate Committees of Congress, and the Government Printing Office.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
San Francisco, California
July 1, 1992
(Council Document #20.12)