

RESOLUTION ON OMB'S PROPOSED CIRCULAR ON  
MANAGEMENT OF FEDERAL INFORMATION RESOURCES

- WHEREAS, Access to government information and publications is essential for an informed society; and
- WHEREAS, Government has a responsibility to make available the information collected and created by it; and
- WHEREAS, New technology in information collection and dissemination has created changes in traditional methods of access; and
- WHEREAS, The Office of Management and Budget issued a proposed circular, "Management of Federal Information Resources," in the March 15 Federal Register which prompted a large number of negative comments; and
- WHEREAS, If implemented as written, the circular will systematically deprive the American people of basic information by and about their government; and
- WHEREAS, The American Library Association believes that the proposed circular reaches beyond agency management considerations into areas which are properly the purview of Congress; and
- WHEREAS, Two subcommittees of the House Government Operations Committee are conducting hearings on the proposed circular; and
- WHEREAS, There are enough difficult issues raised, but not resolved, by the circular to warrant a complete revision; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the ALA urge OMB to issue a revised proposed circular taking into consideration comments received; and be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED, That OMB be urged to publish the revised proposed circular in the Federal Register with adequate opportunity for comment; and, be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED, That Congress be urged to review whether the circular's basic considerations and assumptions reflect the importance, value, and role of government information to American democracy and the American society in general.

Adopted by the Council of the  
American Library Association  
Chicago, Illinois  
July 10, 1985  
(Council Document #47.3)