

RESOLUTION ON GPO MICROFICHE CONVERSION PROGRAM

- WHEREAS, The lack of access to current government information adversely impacts citizens, business organizations, and governmental units of this country, economically, socially and politically; and
- WHEREAS, There has been almost no distribution of government publications in microfiche format to depository libraries, international exchange partners, or through the Government Printing Office (GPO) Sales Program since August 27, 1987; and
- WHEREAS, The Library Programs Service of the Government Printing Office has rejected large quantities of contractor-produced microfiche due to poor quality; and
- WHEREAS, Over 12,000 titles now await microfiche conversion, including 5,000 title in a defaulted contract, thus preventing depository libraries from carrying out their mandate to provide ready access to government information; and
- WHEREAS, These problems have been further compounded by a second contract award to and default by the same microfiche contractor to convert the Code of Federal Regulations to microfiche; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge the Joint Committee on Printing to direct the Government Printing Office to expedite the awarding of contract(s) for production and distribution of microfiche titles not affected by possible litigation; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge the Joint Committee on Printing to direct the Government Printing Office to immediately identify and implement paper or other appropriate alternative means of distribution for government publications unreasonably delayed by current or future procurement disputes; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association strongly support efforts by the Government Printing Office in developing specifications for future contracts that ensure high quality production and timely distribution of microfiche products.

Adopted by the Council of the  
American Library Association  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
July 13, 1988  
(Council Document #74)