

RESOLUTION ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES

- WHEREAS, current Federal budgetary restrictions have impinged heavily upon the statistics gathering and dissemination activities of various governmental agencies, and
- WHEREAS, the basic structure of government in the United States is undergoing significant changes necessitating adequate sources for statistical analysis of such changes, and
- WHEREAS, the need for coordination of Federal statistical policy is crucial to the usefulness of statistics generated by the Federal government, and
- WHEREAS, state and local governments rely on accurate and timely statistics for identification of needs and implementation of programs, and
- WHEREAS, the private sector of the United States economy relies on accurate and timely statistics from the United States government, and
- WHEREAS, the abolition of the Statistical Policy Branch of the Office of Management and Budget leaves the United States without an identifiable and adequately staffed, central policy and planning point for Federal statistics for the first time in over fifty years, now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, that the American Library Association urge that an identifiable and adequately staffed central statistical policy unit be established to ensure a continuing policy such that private enterprise, various governmental agencies, and the American public have access to accurate, standardized, and timely statistical data from the United States government and that such data be distributed through the GPO Depository Library System, and be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED, that funds be restored to the statistical functions of the various Federal agencies to continue previous data gathering activities as well as to provide a means for governments of all levels and the American public to assess adequately the effects of budgetary restrictions and changes resulting from "New Federalism" and other innovative programs, and be it
- FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington Office of the American Library Association distribute this resolution to all those concerned in the Federal government.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
July 14, 1982
(Council Document #79)