

RESOLUTION ON FLAG BURNING

Whereas, The rights of expression are among the most basic of human rights; and

Whereas, The American Library Association is committed to the protection of free speech as provided for in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, The Bill of Rights has stood for two centuries as the protection of free speech regardless of assaults by special interests or for political expediency; and

Whereas, The U.S. Supreme Court has determined that burning the flag is a form of free speech and thus is protected by the First Amendment; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association expresses its support and appreciation for the vote in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate to uphold free expression as provided in the Bill of Rights, by defeating the proposed constitutional amendment on flag burning; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be transmitted to the leadership of the House of Representatives and the Senate, to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, and to the President of the United States.

Adopted by the ALA Council, June 27, 1990