RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Executive Board of the American Library Association, convened at its 1969 Spring Meeting in Chicago, April 30 - May 2, 1969 is deeply concerned with the drastic reductions by the Congress in the support of international, educational, and cultural programs administered by the Department of State; and, with the failure of the Congress to fund the International Education Act, and,

WHEREAS, There is now a critical need for the furtherance of international peace and understanding; and of economic, social and educational development both here and abroad to which these programs, present and potential, could contribute, especially through the instrument of libraries, the wide dissemination of the printed word in books, the teaching and encouragement of reading, and the exchange and continuing education of professional people and the enhancement of their expertise, and,

WHEREAS, There will follow serious consequences if these reductions in support remain in effect, such as the weakening of academic programs and activities here and in many other countries with which we have friendly and long-standing ties, and the interruption or elimination of cooperative arrangements, including the full and unimpeded flow of scholarly and professional information; as well as the loss of much or all of the administrative structure both in government and in the private sector, intergovernmental accords, and the voluntary aid and activity on which these international programs have depended to a significant degree, none of which can easily be reconstructed, except at great expense,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Executive Board of the American Library Association urge the President, the Congress, and the Department of State to restore support for these efforts, and to initiate support where it has been lacking under authorizing legislation at a level which will ensure a strong, effective and continuing contribution in the conduct of our international programs and in our educational system.

Adopted May 2, 1969

Transmitted to The President The Secretary of State The Senate Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations The House Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs

by David H. Clift
Executive Director
May 21, 1969