

RESOLUTION CONCERNING DOWNGRADING PROFESSIONAL
LIBRARIANS IN FEDERAL LIBRARIES

- WHEREAS, The contracting out or privatization of entire Federal libraries and information centers jeopardizes the integrity of their resources and the quality of their services; and
- WHEREAS, Federal librarians are key to effective utilization of these information resources, performing an inherently governmental function; and
- WHEREAS, The American Library Association has opposed contracting out of Federal libraries using the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76, "Performance of Commercial Activities" procedures; and
- WHEREAS, The A-76 review process has led to the downgrading and/or reclassification of professional positions to the technical level in order to reduce costs in Federal libraries; and
- WHEREAS, The American Library Association recognizes that fully qualified professional librarians are required to fill governmental positions requiring the performance of professional level duties and responsibilities; and
- WHEREAS, Personnel standards for Federal library technicians do not have equivalent education and experience requirements as those for the professional librarian series; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association oppose the downgrading and elimination of professional librarian positions in the Federal sector as a result of A-76 contracting out reviews; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, other appropriate Federal officials, and the appropriate Congressional oversight committees.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Chicago, Illinois
January 10, 1990
(Council Document #51)