RESOLUTION ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WHEREAS, The Library of Congress, in addition to its mission to serve Congress, and its library service to researchers on site, provides essential national services to the nation's libraries; and

WHEREAS, ALA recognizes that some of the Library of Congress national library services are based on dated 1902 statutory language authorizing the sale of surplus copies of card indexes and other publications; and

WHEREAS, ALA understands that the General Accounting Office, in its audit of the Library of Congress (GAO/AFMD-91-13), identified accounting weaknesses and the need to have authority for a revolving fund; and

WHEREAS, Library of Congress officials have, since first proposing to establish an LC fee-services fund in June 1990, met in a cooperative spirit with ALA representatives in the process of developing proposed legislation; and

WHEREAS, The Library of Congress has developed a draft (May 31, 1994) Library of Congress Financial Reform Act focused on current operations and services; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Act would, among other things, establish a revolving fund for improved accountability of funds, modernize the authorization to recover the cost of distribution of information products and services, and authorize the Library of Congress to retain funds generated from selected sales and payments or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged items; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association support the proposed Library of Congress Financial Reform Act and encourage prompt enactment by the United States Congress.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Miami, Florida
June 29, 1994
(Council Document 21.10)