

ALA American Library Association

RESOLUTION ON APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the American Library Association, as a nonprofit educational association of 57,000 librarians and other individuals dedicated to promoting the highest quality library and information services and protecting public access to information, has great interest in the appointment of the next Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS); and

WHEREAS, the IMLS director is the highest ranking federal official speaking for libraries and museums and administering the federal programs designed to assist these institutions to better serve the American public; and

WHEREAS, the first appointment by President Clinton to this position was Diane Frankel as Director of the Institute of Museum Services, who then became the first Director of the expanded Institute of Museum and Library Services in 1996 after enactment of legislation placing federal library programs in this agency; and

WHEREAS, Diane Frankel, who resigned in March 1999, is a distinguished museum services professional who brought great credit to the Administration and set a high standard for leadership of this important agency; and

WHEREAS, the law now calls for the appointment by the President, with confirmation by the Senate, of a director of IMLS for a four-year term "from among individuals who have special competence with regard to library and information services;" now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association respectfully request that the President appoint a new director, and that the Senate confirm such an appointment, consistent with these provisions of the Museum and Library Services Act; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association support the appointment of a library professional who has demonstrated the ability and has the credentials and the library experience necessary to provide the Institute with distinguished leadership; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association oppose any nomination that does not meet these qualifications; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association would be pleased to work with the White House to ensure the appointment of an individual possessing distinguished professional library qualifications to lead the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the next four years.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
New Orleans, LA
June 30, 1999
(Council Document 20.7)