

RESOLUTION ON LEGISLATIVE ACTION
TO SUPPORT BETTER CHILD CARE SERVICES

- WHEREAS, Half of all mothers with infants younger than age two are in the work force; and
- WHEREAS, Fifty percent of all mothers with preschool children are in the labor force; and
- WHEREAS, Seventy-one percent of all employed mothers with children younger than 18 work; and
- WHEREAS, In July 1986, only 3,000 ^{full-time} of the nation's six million employers provided any help to meet their employees' child care needs; and
- WHEREAS, The typical cost of full-time child care is \$3,000 per year, or one-third of the poverty level for a family of three; and
- WHEREAS, Public libraries serve children in child care situations and the providers of child care; and
- WHEREAS, The lack of child care facilities has led self-care children to use public libraries in lieu of after-school child care; and
- WHEREAS, The act ^{of} Better Child Care Services was introduced on November 19, 1987, to the Senate by Christopher Dodd (D-CT), John Chafee (R-RI), and Alan Cranston (D-CA); and to the House by Dale Kildee (D-MI), and Olympia Snowe (R-ME); and
- WHEREAS, It is anticipated that similar legislation will be introduced which would authorize funds to help states make child care more affordable; increase the number of child care facilities and the number of qualified day care staff available to all families; improve the quality of child care available to all families; and coordinate child care resources to ensure their efficient use and help make a wide range of child care options available to parents, thus enabling them to make the most suitable arrangements for their children; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urge Congress to address the need for better child care services; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association work with other interested groups and organizations to achieve such legislation; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to the U. S. House of Representatives, to the U. S. Senate and children's organizations with which the Association already has representation such as Child Welfare League of America, and Day Care and Child Development Council of America.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Washington, D. C.
January 11, 1989
(Council Document #24)