

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
WASHINGTON OFFICE



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**RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON PROTECTION  
FROM DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

- WHEREAS,** The American Library Association is on record urging all librarians to oppose publicly and energetically the passage of the anti-gay state initiative that was on the November 1992 ballot in Oregon and any other similar initiatives in other local or state jurisdictions; and
- WHEREAS,** The passage in November 1992 of Colorado's anti-gay Ballot Measure No. 2 has encouraged supporters of such measures to plan similar initiatives in Washington, Idaho, Ohio, Missouri, and California; and
- WHEREAS,** Many of the anti-gay initiatives include provisions which would prohibit the purchase and dissemination of gay and lesbian materials; and
- WHEREAS,** Such anti-gay initiatives are in direct opposition to long-standing and fundamental ALA policies including the right of all people to receive library service without discrimination, support for equal employment opportunity for gay and lesbian library workers, support for the availability through libraries of information representing all points of view, opposition to censorship, and support for the freedom to read; and
- WHEREAS,** The proliferation of anti-gay initiatives in various states and cities threatens the civil rights of gay, lesbian, and bisexual library users, librarians and library workers, and also threatens the freedom to read of all library users; and
- WHEREAS,** The most effective method of ensuring nationwide protection for civil rights would be federal legislation; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the American Library Association support federal legislative action to protect all people from discrimination based on sexual orientation; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** That copies of this resolution be distributed by the ALA Washington Office to appropriate individuals and organizations.

Adopted by the Council of the  
American Library Association  
Denver, Colorado  
January 27, 1993  
(Council Document #46)