



RESOLUTION ON NETWORKING APPLICATIONS LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, H.R. 1757, the High Performance Computing and High Speed Networking Applications Act of 1993, represents a broadening and further implementation of the Internet/NREN vision as enacted in the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-194); and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1757 would carry forward many policy elements ALA has long recommended in support of Internet/NREN legislation; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1757 would enable many local public, school, and academic libraries to gain access to networks such as the Internet, and would support needed research and training activities, including programs to train librarians and to enable them to train the public; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1757 would support applications for education, health care, library, and government information using computer and networking technologies; and

WHEREAS, Provisions similar to H.R. 1757 are incorporated in Title VI of S. 4, the National Competitiveness Act, a bill ordered reported on May 25, 1993, by the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; and

WHEREAS, S. 4, however, includes language prohibiting federal support of data communications networks operated by governmental entities, and contains a rigid 18-month timetable for the separation between experimental test bed networks and other network uses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association express its strong support for the passage of H.R. 1757 as approved on June 17, 1993, by the House Subcommittee on Science; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association recommend that the Senate remove certain provisions of S. 4 such as those relating to governmental operation of data communications networks and to the timetable for experimental networks, and substitute the more flexible provisions of H.R. 1757 covering these areas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 30, 1993
(Council Document 27.13)