RESOLUTION OF TRIBUTE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WHEREAS, Recent access charge decisions and divestiture related tariffs are having a major impact on the cost to libraries of telecommunications, through which libraries share resources and enhance service delivery to the nation's library users; and

WHEREAS, Senator Larry Pressler (R-SD), a Member of the Senate Communications Subcommittee, has recognized the public interest served by libraries and the unique role of libraries in providing universal access to information; and

WHEREAS, Senator Pressler has spearheaded over the last two years a sustained effort to protect libraries and their users from the impact of sudden and significant rate increases for existing telecommunications services; and

WHEREAS, Senator Pressler's most recent efforts included a letter to the Federal Communications Commission recommending suspension and further consideration of pending tariffs, and consideration of a special private line service for libraries; and

WHEREAS, A total of twenty-eight Senators signed the February 1985 letter to the FCC, indicating strong bipartisan support for libraries as common carriers of information; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the Senate efforts, the private line tariffs now in effect provide for a much less drastic increase for libraries than originally proposed; and

WHEREAS, Senator Pressler has demonstrated his continued leadership in the effort to assure universal access to information; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association commend Senator Larry Pressler of South Dakota for his continued leadership in assuring affordable telecommunications for libraries, express strong support for his efforts, and pledge continued cooperation in preserving universal access to information; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Library Association commend the twenty-seven Senators who cosigned the February 1985 letter to the Federal Communications Commission; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to Senator Larry Pressler and to Senators James Abdnor, Mark Andrews, Max Baucus, Rudy Boschwitz, Bill Bradley, Quentin Burdick, Alan Dixon, Thomas (over)

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Chicago, Illinois
July 10, 1985
(Council Document #47.9)