TO: ALA Executive Board

RE: Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates 25th Anniversary

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:
The Board is asked to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) by presenting a citation at their anniversary celebration.

ACTION REQUESTED BY:
Camila Alire, President, American Library Association
Keith Michael Fiels, Executive Director, American Library Association

CONTACT PERSON:
JoAnne Kempf, Director, Office of ALA Governance

DRAFT OF MOTION:
The American Library Association congratulates COLA on its 25 years of effective library advocacy and wishes it success for many more years to come.

DATE: December 17, 2009

BACKGROUND:
The Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) is a citizen support group whose mission is to improve the quality life for all Rhode Islanders by supporting libraries of all kinds. COLA’s work includes advocacy, education, public awareness, and the encouragement of local library-support groups. COLA is represented on the Governor’s Library Board. Incorporated in 1985, COLA will celebrate its 25th anniversary on February 8, 2010.

The Board is asked to authorize a citation to be presented by ALA President Camila Alire at COLA’s anniversary celebration. The citation, in the form of a resolution, is attached.

Attachment: Resolution
Resolution on the 25th Anniversary of the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates

WHEREAS, even before it was officially incorporated in 1985, COLA, the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates, which is Rhode Island’s grassroots library support group, has energetically and enthusiastically advocated for all kinds of libraries throughout the state; and,

WHEREAS, the COLA has held educational programs for members of Friends’ Groups, trustees, librarians, and the general public; and,

WHEREAS, the COLA has helped keep the University of Rhode Island Graduate Library School open when it was threatened with closing; and,

WHEREAS, the COLA has fostered cooperative relationships among all types of Rhode Island libraries; and,

WHEREAS, the COLA has achieved increased funding for libraries locally, statewide, and nationally; and,

WHEREAS, the COLA has helped achieve the formula that puts Rhode Island second in the nation in the funding of per capita expenditures for public libraries; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the American Library Association congratulates COLA on its 25 years of effective library advocacy and wishes it success for many more years to come.