

**RESOLUTION ON SAFEGUARDING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION AND E-GOVERNMENT IN TIMES OF DISASTERS**

- WHEREAS**, Local, state and federal government agencies create and publish essential government information of enduring value and provide services in a purely electronic form; and
- WHEREAS**, The American Library Association supports permanency and reliability of government information in all formats; and
- WHEREAS**, Libraries play an essential role in e-government and emergency response/recovery services; and
- WHEREAS**, Libraries serve as primary communication access points for the general public in times of disasters,
- WHEREAS**, Governments at all levels need plans to ensure continuity of operations; and
- WHEREAS**, Absent adequate safeguards to ensure continuous and permanent access by the public to electronic government information, Americans are in danger of losing access that is essential for a democratic society; and
- WHEREAS**, Governments at all levels must ensure that adequate disaster recovery plans and redundant systems are in place so that the public's access to government information and services is uninterrupted; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED**, That the American Library Association urges governments at all levels to create adequate disaster recovery plans and maintain redundant systems in order to effectively facilitate the wide-spread use of e-government, and to enable libraries to provide access to reliable resources; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That libraries are essential government service providers and should be given priority access to electrical and telecommunications connections during times of disasters to facilitate community and emergency aid response.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Wednesday, January 16, 2008
In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Michael Fiels', with a stylized, cursive script.

Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and
Secretary to the ALA Council