

RESOLUTION ON FULL FUNDING FOR THE FEDERAL DIGITAL SYSTEM

- WHEREAS,** The Government Printing Office (GPO) will in 2008 make the first of three planned public releases of its Federal Digital System (FDSys); and
- WHEREAS,** The FDSys will include all known federal government documents from all three branches, whether printed or born digital, making the FDSys the central repository of the Nation's vital government information; and
- WHEREAS,** The GPO has scheduled FDSys implementation in three carefully coordinated releases which incrementally build on one another, in order to maximize the functionality of interdependent technical processes as they are brought online; and
- WHEREAS,** Release 1 is funded, but FY 2008 funding failed to provide the additional \$10 million requested by the GPO which is needed to implement Release 2; and
- WHEREAS,** The ability of the FDSys to harvest online agency information, a critical FDSys function, creates additional burdens under the GPO's Title 44 cataloging responsibilities; and
- WHEREAS,** The GPO requires additional funding for its Cataloging and Indexing Program in order to meet this expanded responsibility; and
- WHEREAS,** Delayed deployment of FDSys releases will deprive the Nation of a fully functional central permanent repository of federal government information; and
- WHEREAS,** The FDSys is critical to the functioning of the federal government in the 21st century, and provides a platform for e-government; and
- WHEREAS,** The full implementation and future deployment of the FDSys is vital to the public's right to access information from all three branches of government; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the American Library Association (ALA) urges Congress to renew its commitment to full deployment of the Federal Digital System and related functions and services, including cataloging support; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the ALA urges Congress to fully fund future GPO appropriations requests that are essential to the deployment of the Federal Digital System and to the GPO's Title 44 obligations.

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



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