

**2004-2005 CD #20.4  
ALA Midwinter Meeting  
January 19, 2005**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE “STOP BEFORE YOU CLICK”  
CAMPAIGN**

- WHEREAS, The American Library Association is a founding member of the Americans for Fair Electronic Commerce Transactions (AFFECT), a national coalition of consumers, retail and manufacturing businesses, financial institutions, technology professionals and librarians committed to the growth of fair and competitive U. S. markets in software and other digital products;
- WHEREAS, AFFECT and ALA have been instrumental in helping to prevent the passage of UCITA (Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act), dangerous, anti-competitive, anti-business, anti-consumer legislation;
- WHEREAS, Vendors nevertheless continue to impose extreme terms for mass-market digital products which erode customer rights, chill innovation and legitimate uses (including fair use), restrict competition and increase risk to computer integrity and security for both individuals and businesses;
- WHEREAS, The American Library Association wishes to ensure that libraries are able to make legitimate uses of the products they buy, maintain their computers' reliability and security, and prevent invasion of the privacy of their users; and
- WHEREAS, Fairness in these digital transactions -- the terms of which may not even be available until the transaction has been completed -- has become a pressing public policy concern; and
- WHEREAS, AFFECT has undertaken an outreach campaign called STOP BEFORE YOU CLICK to promote fair business practices and to guide sellers, users of digital products and policymakers in developing balanced law(s) to govern purchases of off-the-shelf software and digital products;
- WHEREAS, The cornerstone of AFFECT's efforts is the “12 Principles for Fair Commerce in Software and Other Digital Products”; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association shall endorse STOP BEFORE YOU CLICK's “12 Principles for Fair Commerce in Software and Other Digital Products”; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association shall encourage its members to implement the “12 Principles for Fair Commerce in Software and Other Digital Products” in their licensing review, purchasing and negotiation practices; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association will share this resolution with the other U.S. library associations.

Adopted by the Committee on Legislation, January 17, 2005

Endorsed by: ACRL Copyright Committee

Endorsed by: OITP Copyright Committee

Endorsed in principle by IFC, January 17, 2005:

Policy: 53.8

Prior History: CD# 20.6, July 1998

CD# 20.4, January 2001