

**2001-2002 CE #20.10
2002 ALA Annual Conference**

**RESOLUTION ON SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS FY 2003
SALARIES AND EXPENSES APPROPRIATIONS**

WHEREAS, public access to government information is vital to a democratic society and the economic well-being of the nation and the American public; and

WHEREAS, the Government Printing Office (GPO) Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), reaches the entire nation through the geographically dispersed system of over 1,300 depository libraries and is the primary provider of no-fee public access to federal government information regardless of format; and

WHEREAS, GPO supports the information needs of businesses, researchers, students, and the general public through the Federal Depository Library Program; and

WHEREAS, over 225,000 electronic titles are available to the public through the award-winning *GPO Access* system which attracts 31 million downloads per month; and

WHEREAS, user needs cannot be met exclusively by electronic dissemination, thereby requiring GPO to maintain multiple format distribution systems; and

WHEREAS, this request ensures current and permanent public access to government information through partnership programs with federal agencies and depository libraries, electronic government information locator services, bibliographic control of electronic government information and the International Exchange Program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association urge Congress to fund fully the Government Printing Office S&E appropriations for FY 2003 at \$34.1 million requested by the Public Printer; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association urge Congress to reaffirm the government's responsibility to provide federal government information products in formats most appropriate to

the public's needs and to ensure the permanent public access of federal information in all formats;
and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association urge Congress to reaffirm its commitment to *GPO Access* and the Federal Depository Library Program services and collections and to sustain critical functions, such as collecting, producing, cataloging, indexing and distributing government publications from other agencies, and the continuation of the International Exchange Program.

Adopted by the Council of the
American Library Association
Atlanta, GA
June 19, 2002

Wm R. Gordon
Secretary of the ALA Council