

**2005-2006 ALA CD# 20.10
2006 ALA Annual Conference**

RESOLUTION ON SAVING FEDERAL LIBRARIES

WHEREAS, federal libraries are essential in supporting government staff to develop informed policies, write regulations, take legal action against law breakers, and educate the public; and

WHEREAS, these libraries have unique, historic and irreplaceable collections that are critical to achieving their agencies' missions; and

WHEREAS, tax dollars have been spent to establish and maintain federal libraries and some agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Department of Energy, are dismantling these valuable libraries;

WHEREAS, federal staff will be hampered in carrying out their responsibilities without the support of knowledgeable and skilled federal librarians who possess specialized subject expertise; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association (ALA) urges Congress to affirm that the federal libraries are inherently governmental and the position of librarian is essential; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ALA urges the United States Congress to hold oversight hearings investigating the ongoing destruction of federal libraries before they are lost beyond recovery; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ALA urges Congress to adequately fund federal libraries so that they will be able to employ federal librarians with subject expertise to provide research services.

Endorsed by ALA Council 6/28/06

Endorsed in principle by GODORT 06/26/2006

Endorsed in principle by FAFLRT 06/24/2006

Endorsed in principle by ACRL 6/27/06