

**A Resolution to Include School Librarians in the Reauthorization of the  
Elementary and Secondary Education Act**

**WHEREAS,** The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) previously known as No Child Left Behind, is due for reauthorization; and

**WHEREAS,** Inclusion of school libraries and school librarians in ESEA is a significant American Library Association priority; and

**WHEREAS,** Research in more than sixty studies show that students in schools with school libraries staffed by state-certified school librarians learn more, earn better grades, and perform better on standardized tests than their peers who lack such library resources and staffing; and

**WHEREAS,** School librarians teach information literacy skills that enable students to become lifelong learners in academic, professional and personal contexts, and to participate as informed citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** The current version of ESEA lacks a clear statement requiring the presence of an adequately staffed school library; and

**WHEREAS,** The lack of a federal requirement has resulted in the loss of school libraries and certified school librarians in public schools across the United States; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the American Library Association (ALA):

1. The American Library Association conveys to the President, the Secretary of Education, and the Congress of the United States the urgent need to require that the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) have a goal that every public school have a library staffed by a state-certified school librarian.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association  
Tuesday, June 29, 2010  
In Washington, DC



Keith Michael Fiels

ALA Executive Director and  
Secretary to the ALA Council