

**RESOLUTION TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE IMPROVING  
LITERACY THROUGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES PROGRAM**

Whereas, Students with strong school libraries staffed by state-certified school librarians learn more, get better grades, and score higher on standardized tests; and

Whereas, Students must master 21st century skills to compete in today's global economy and participate as informed citizens; and

Whereas, School librarians and school library programs educate students in the critical, specialized thinking skills that are identified in the AASL Standards for the 21st Century Learner and are essential to college and career readiness; and

Whereas, School librarians and school library programs ensure that all students have equal opportunity to master the 21st century skills necessary to participate in the digital age; and

Whereas, The Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program improves student literacy skills and academic achievement by providing increased access to up-to-date library materials, well-equipped technologically advanced school libraries, and well-trained state-certified school librarians; and

Whereas, The United States Department of Education rates the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program as highly effective in improving the quality of those school libraries receiving the grants; and

Whereas, The Improving Literacy through School Libraries program facilitates student learning in critical 21st century skill areas by providing 24/7 access to essential information resources; and

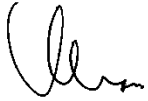
Whereas, The Improving Literacy through School Libraries program was authorized at \$250 million, but was zero funded in FY 2011; and

Whereas, Improving Literacy through School Libraries was last appropriated in FY 2010 at \$19.1 million; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA):

1. Urges the United States Congress to recognize the importance of school libraries by retaining the authorization of Improving Literacy through School Libraries.
2. Urges Congress to commit a minimum of \$19.1 million designated specifically for Improving Literacy through School Libraries in FY 2012.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association



Keith Michael Fiels  
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council  
Tuesday, June 28, 2011  
In New Orleans, Louisiana