

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING HR 676, FOR SINGLE PAYER UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE, AND S 2772, THE HEALTH PARTNERSHIP ACT**

WHEREAS ALA Policy 54.19 states that “ALA recognizes the importance of comprehensive health care for all Americans and its impact on libraries and their users”; and

WHEREAS, the ALA joined the Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN) by resolution on January 18, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the rapidly rising cost of health care benefits continues to inhibit the ability of libraries to create career opportunities for librarians and library workers, stunts improvements in wages, and thereby threatens the future of our profession and our libraries; and

WHEREAS more than 45 million people in the U.S. have no health insurance; and

WHEREAS, both uninsured and underinsured working people often face financial ruin in the event of a medical emergency, which impacts negatively on our communities; and

WHEREAS, without good health, humankind cannot truly exercise intellectual freedom and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS a single payer program as provided in HR 676 offers an affordable opportunity to provide needed universal and comprehensive health care coverage in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS S 2772, the Health Partnership Act, provides incentives to encourage states to pursue new health care options funded by federal dollars; and

WHEREAS UHCAN endorses both these bills;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the American Library Association endorse HR 676, “Expanded Medicare for All,” a single payer health care program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Library Association endorse S2772, “Health Care Partnership Act,” as a first step towards affordable quality health care for all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Library Association work with affiliated organizations and among our own membership to bill popular support for these bills; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Library Association send a copy of this resolution to the President, to all Senators and Representatives.

Moved by Ann Sparanese, Councilor-at-Large  
Seconded by Melora Ranney-Norman, Maine Chapter Councilor

Endorsed by ALA Council 6/28/06