

Substituted for C.D #48
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1977 ALA Membership
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FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION

WHEREAS, information is essential for all persons at all age levels and all economic and social levels, and

WHEREAS, publicly supported libraries are "institutions of education for democratic living" (Library Bill of Rights), and exist to provide information to all persons, and

WHEREAS, increased use of automated bibliographic data bases (many of which have been developed with tax funds) has caused some publicly supported libraries to charge for those services, which practice may set precedent for further fee setting, and

WHEREAS, the charging of fees for information deprives service to those who cannot afford the fees, and thus effectively discriminates against them, and

WHEREAS, ALA has urged the free flow of information and has spoken out clearly against all obstacles that stand in the way of an individual's access to ideas and information,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ALA affirm its belief in the concept of access to information, without charge to individuals, in public and other publicly supported libraries, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the ALA ~~Council~~ develop and approve the following statement of policy:

It shall be the policy of the American Library Association to assert that the charging of fees and levies for information services, including those services utilizing the latest information technology, is discriminatory in publicly supported institutions providing library and information services.

It shall be the policy of the American Library Association to seek to make it possible for library and information service agencies which receive their major support from public funds to provide service to all people without additional fees and to utilize the latest technological developments to insure the best possible access to information; and that

The Association will, through an active program of information, education, and the formulation of future policy and programming, actively promote its position on equal access to information.

Submitted to ALA Membership
Approved by the Membership of the Social Responsibilities
Round Table June 17, 1977

*Library Resources
and Responsibilities
Council
Feb 1977*

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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~~EXHIBIT 17~~

107.13



RESOLUTION ON LIBRARY EDUCATION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SPANISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE

Adopted by ALA Council
February 4, 1977

WHEREAS there were at least 10.6 million persons of Spanish-origin residing in the United States, as counted by the 1970 census; and

WHEREAS there has been a considerable increase in this number since the last census; and

WHEREAS the 1970 census records 4.6 million persons of Spanish-surname in the five southwestern states; and

WHEREAS there are 1.5 to 2.5 million persons of Spanish-surname in the New York City area; and

WHEREAS there are approximately one-half million persons of Spanish-surname in Florida; and

WHEREAS one of the provisions of the 1972 standards for accreditation requires that library schools be responsive to the needs of the constituency which they serve; and

WHEREAS the curricula of graduate library schools has largely neglected the library needs of these Spanish-heritage people,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the American Library Association take immediate steps through its Committee on Accreditation to encourage graduate library schools seeking accreditation or reaccreditation to enrich their curricula to assure that course content reflect the cultural heritage and needs of the Spanish-speaking people of the United States and that schools also be encouraged to include bilingual/bicultural individuals on their faculties.

Transmitted by:

Robert Wedgeworth

Robert Wedgeworth
Secretary of the Council

