Memorial Resolution Honoring Lane Thompson

Whereas, Lane S. Thompson was a life-long library user and supporter, perhaps because his father had been the assistant director of the Washington, D.C. Public Library; and

Whereas, Lane served as an appointed Library Commissioner for the Fairbanks (Alaska) North Star Borough from Dec., 1992 until one month before his death in July, 2010; and

Whereas, Lane served two terms as Chairperson of the Commission during the first expansion of the main library, and he was instrumental in promoting the fundraising for that effort; and

Whereas, Lane was appointed to the Alaska State Library Advisory Board for two terms from 2000 to 2004 during the period when the Board wrote the first statewide library development plan; and

Whereas, Lane was outspoken with public officials and took strong stands in support of intellectual freedom, confidentiality and privacy, and other library issues; and

Whereas, From his obituary, "He challenged people to think for themselves, pursue human rights with compassion, read, learn and ask a lot of questions. He strived to make the world a fairer and better place to live;" now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. Recognizes the significant contributions of Lane Thompson to the libraries and users of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and of the state of Alaska; and
2. Expresses its sincere sympathy to his family, including his wife, Dorothy Thompson of Fairbanks, Alaska, and his sister and his children and their families.

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