

This resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on June 30, 2014

Resolution on Granting the District of Columbia Government Budget Autonomy to Allow City Services, including Libraries, to Remain Open during a Federal Government Shutdown

Whereas Congress did not pass a continuing resolution to fund the federal government at the beginning of fiscal year 2014;

Whereas the District of Columbia (D.C.) government had passed its budget for fiscal year 2014 but was unable to spend local tax revenue without authorization from Congress;

Whereas D.C.'s nearly 700,000 residents would have been subject to a government shutdown if Mayor Vincent Gray had not declared all D.C. government employees to be essential and used the city's reserve fund to pay them;

Whereas a D.C.-government shutdown would have deprived its citizens of access to the 26 public library branches throughout the city, access to the 90 meeting and study rooms in those branches, library services to patrons with disabilities, resources from the library's adult literacy division, and the library's early childhood literacy campaign; and

Whereas during October 2013, the month of the shutdown, the DC Public Library registered 2,207 children and teens for library services, served 22,875 children through programming, held classes for 1667 patrons in library space, and provided access to 35,031 people who used the library for meetings in the library's public meeting space, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

urges Congress to grant the District of Columbia budget autonomy in order to prevent the unnecessary closing of city government facilities, including public libraries, in the event of a federal government shutdown.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association



Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council
Monday, June 30, 2014, in Las Vegas, Nevada

Submitted on Sun, 06/29/2014 - 11:09

Submitted by user:

Submitted values are:

Date: 06/29/2014

Resolution author(s): Christopher J. Corrigan

E-mail address: dclachaptercouncilor@gmail.com

1. Title of Resolution: Resolution on Granting the District of Columbia

Government Budget Autonomy to Allow City Services, including Libraries, to

Remain Open during a Federal Government Shutdown

2. ALA Units and/or Committees Consulted (if any):

COL

RUSA

GODRT

3. Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any):

4. Fiscal implications: Specify the resources needed to carry out the

resolution's directive(s).:

5. List all parties to whom resolution should be sent:

6. Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Explain how the resolution supports

ALA's Strategic Plan, its mission, and/or its core values.:

Advocacy for

libraries

6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint: If the resolution sets forth a general

policy or an ALA viewpoint, describe.:

6b) Change in existing policy: If this resolution necessitates a change in

existing policy, state the policy number and the change.:

6c) New policy: If this resolution establishes new policy, describe.:

6d) Policy conflicts: If this resolution conflicts with existing policy,

state provisions for resolving the conflict.:

7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any):

8. Pertinent Background Information, e.g. bibliography, citations, supportive

quotes, URLs, etc.:

9. Mover's Name: Christopher J. Corrigan

10 Seconder's Name: Jennifer Boettcher