RESOLUTION THANKING MARY ALICE BAISH FOR HER SERVICE AS THE 30th GPO SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

Whereas Mary Alice Baish was appointed Superintendent of Documents by Public Printer William J. Boarman in 2011 and completed her tenure in April 2016;

Whereas Ms. Baish oversaw the Government Publishing Office’s (GPO) Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), which includes more than 1,150 public, academic, federal, court, and other libraries nationwide in order to provide no-fee public access to U.S. Government publications;

Whereas Ms. Baish represented GPO at numerous national, state, and local library conferences to discuss the FDLP’s ongoing transformation to a more digital information dissemination operation;

Whereas Ms. Baish’s fiscally responsible stewardship of the FDLP resulted in substantial savings to the program and GPO, while expanding the reach of the program;

Whereas Ms. Baish oversaw the development of the National Plan for Access to U.S. Government Information, which aims to ensure long-term access to government information through the utilization of modern technology and preservation of historical materials;

Whereas Ms. Baish worked closely with Congress and the library community to develop a new policy that allows regional federal depository libraries greater flexibility and control over their print collections;

Whereas Ms. Baish oversaw the expansion of GPO’s Federal Digital System (FDsys) by collaborating with federal and library partners to provide access to authenticated electronic publications, including born-digital and digitized historical materials such as the Warren Commission Report and Hearings on the Assassination of President Kennedy, federal court opinions, and other historically significant documents; and

Whereas Ms. Baish oversaw a growing range of GPO webinars, virtual conferences, and other digital forums to expand educational and training opportunities for depository librarians and staff.

Resolved, That the American Library Association expresses its gratitude to Mary Alice Baish for her service as the nation’s 30th Superintendent of Documents.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, June 28, 2016, in Orlando, Florida

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council