January 6, 2009

The Honorable Robert A. Brady
Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
1309 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am transmitting herewith the Final Report to the Joint Committee on Printing, “Regional Depository Libraries in the 21st Century: A Preliminary Assessment,” as requested by the Committee in its letter of February 27, 2008; this final report supplants the draft submitted to the Committee in June 2008.

The report recommends that the Committee:

- Support continued appropriations for GPO’s initiative to create machine-readable bibliographic records for the tangible collection of pre-1976 depository publications to ensure its completion in a timelier manner;

- Undertake a more in-depth look at the organizational, financial, and technological issues affecting the [Federal Depository Library Program] in its entirety, regionals and selective alike, and analyze the results to develop recommendations for policy and/or statutory revision that will provide for effective operation of the FDLP in the 21st century; and

- Continue to support GPO’s initiatives to authenticate the Government’s digital information dissemination products.

GPO looks forward to continuing to work with the Committee on this important matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

ROBERT C. TAPELLA
Public Printer

Enclosure