

Contact:
Jessica McGilvray
jmcgilvray@alawash.org

ALA Office of
Government Relations



www.ala.org/washoff

Telephone:
800.941.8478
Fax: 202.628.8419

Support Public Access to Tax-Payer Funded Research *S.350/H.R.708 Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2013 (FASTR)* **National Library Legislative Day** **May 5–6, 2014**

ALA's Position: The American Library Association encourages members of Congress to demonstrate their support of open access to taxpayer funded research by co-sponsoring the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2013 (FASTR).

What does this bill mean for libraries and the public?

- U.S. taxpayers underwrite publicly-funded research and they have a right to expect that they will have access to the research.
- Without the passage of S. 350/H.R. 708, taxpayer-funded research will continue to be inaccessible *without an additional fee* to those already funding it—the public.

If passed, the *Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2013* would:

- Extend the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access policy to an additional 11 federal agencies and departments as it would require those with an annual extramural research budget of \$100 million to develop a policy to ensure researchers submit an electronic copy of the final manuscript accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Ensure that the manuscript is preserved in a stable digital repository maintained by that agency or in another suitable repository that permits free public access, interoperability, and long-term preservation.
- Require that each taxpayer-funded manuscript be made available to the public online and without cost, no later than six months after the article has been published in a peer-reviewed journal.

FASTR of 2013, S. 350, was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Sens. John Cornyn (R-TX) and Ron Wyden (D-OR). Additionally, Reps. Mike Doyle (D-PA), Kevin Yoder (R-KS) and Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) introduced the House version of *FASTR of 2013*, H.R. 708.