

CIPA Resolution

Passed unanimously by the Arizona Library Association Executive Board, April 26, 2001

WHEREAS the recently enacted Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) mandates that libraries and schools install and use filtering software on public Internet computers as a prerequisite for receiving federal funds, including LSTA and E-rate funds; and

WHEREAS no filtering software successfully differentiates constitutionally protected speech from illegal speech on the Internet; and

WHEREAS the federal commission appointed to study safety on the Internet concluded filters are not effective in blocking all content that some may find objectionable, but do block much useful and constitutionally protected information; and

WHEREAS the Arizona library community believes that educating children to use the Internet wisely provides children their best protection; and

WHEREAS the Arizona Library Association encourages local libraries to adopt and implement Internet use policies in the same way they develop other policies, based on the needs of their communities; and

WHEREAS the Arizona Library Association opposes attempts by federal and state governments to set local policy; and

WHEREAS the American Library Association has resolved to challenge the CIPA in federal courts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Arizona Library Association endorses and supports this legal action by the American Library Association.