

## **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST CIPA**

WHEREAS the recently enacted Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Child Internet Protection Act (NCIPA) mandate that libraries and schools install and use filtering software on public Internet computers as a prerequisite for receiving federal funds, including LSTA, E-rate and ESEA funds; and

WHEREAS the Missouri Library Association supports local decision-making regarding the use of Internet filters in libraries, and opposes attempts by federal and state governments to set local policy; and

WHEREAS the federal commission appointed to study child 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 no filtering software successfully differentiates constitutionally protected speech and images from illegal speech and images on the Internet; and

WHEREAS many thousands of Missouri library users cannot afford computers, require assistive technology to use them, and therefore rely on public access computers in their local libraries for Internet access; and

WHEREAS the American Library Association, in conjunction with a broad range of cultural and educational organizations has resolved to challenge CIPA in federal courts; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Missouri Library Association endorses and supports this legal action.

Adopted February 5, 2001

Distributed to:  
ALA Chapter Relations Office  
MLA membership via website  
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