

## **NYLA Statement Concerning CIPA**

**Adopted by the New York Library Association  
Tuesday, June 5, 2001**

Whereas, the recently enacted Child 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 child safety on the Internet concluded that filters are not effective in blocking all content that some may find objectionable, but do block much useful and Constitutionally-protected speech; and

Whereas, the New York Library Association does not recommend the use of filters in libraries, and emphatically opposes attempts by federal and state governments to set local policy; and

Whereas, the American Library Association is challenging CIPA in federal courts;

Therefore be it resolved, that the New York Library Association endorses and supports this legal action by the American Library Association.

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Approved by NYLA IFC, March 27, 2001; Adopted by NYLA Council, June 5, 2001