

A Resolution Supporting ALA Legal Challenge of CIPA

Adopted by the Rhode Island Library Association Executive Board
Tuesday, February 6, 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; 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 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 Rhode Island Library Association strongly opposes attempts by federal and state governments to set local policy; and

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

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