

GODORT Legislation Committee
ALA Annual Conference – Orlando, Florida
Friday, June 25, 2004
Orange County Convention Center 221A
3:30-4:30 pm

Members in attendance: Arlene Weible (chair), Valerie Glenn, Beth Rowe, Sherry Mosley, Mary Mallory, Bernadette Abbott-Hoduski, Susan Kendall, Maureen Olle, Amy West, Becky Byrum

Arlene Weible called the meeting to order, introductions were made around the table and the minutes of the Midwinter meeting were approved as written.

Updates:

No updates were given from the Task Force liaisons.

FDLP changes: Arlene reported that the Federal Documents Task Force will be commenting on the documents produced by GPO outlining changes to the FDLP.

Archivist of the United States: Valerie reported that there has been no movement on this issue but that ALA Washington Office has submitted questions for the Senate confirmation hearings.

E-government Workgroups: Arlene reported that a subgroup will meet later during Legislation Committee meetings to work with Patrice McDermott to address web content policies, categorization of government information and electronic records policies.

ERIC: Becky reported that she will be attending the ERIC update session that will be held later in the conference.

Review of Potential Actions at Annual Conference:

Drafts resolutions were presented on GPO Appropriations, privatization of government information and the Thomas resolution (S. 360).

FDLP Fact Sheet: the Legislative Committee will start updating the fact sheets on the GODORT web site which includes both information fact sheets and advocacy fact sheets.

Sensitive Security Information: Valerie reported that this term was introduced with the formulation of the Transportation Security Administration and has been expanded to include other transportation information. This material is not subject to FOIA or a review process. H.R. 3550 has been introduced in the House of Representatives which would expand the definition to include highway and maritime information. Valerie will check to see if we have responded to a resolution that would cover this situation.

Whistleblower Legislation: Arlene reported that she will raise the issue with the Legislative Assembly regarding the protection of federal whistleblowers.

Other: Bernadine suggested that FDTF write a letter to GPO regarding the taking down of Women's Bureau reports.

Meeting was adjourned.

Additional actions at conference: The committee met jointly with the ALA Committee on Legislation's Government Information Subcommittee (COL-GIS) on Saturday and Monday, and had an additional meeting on Sunday. Discussion and further editing of the resolutions on GPO Appropriations and Privatization took place. The Thomas resolution was tabled until the next conference so additional information could be gathered. Additional resolutions were drafted on "Sensitive" Information Guidelines and Whistleblower Protection, in conjunction with COL-GIS. The committee also endorsed a resolution on the Administrative Conference of the United States, presented by the FAFLRT.

The final versions of the Resolutions are available at the GODORT Legislation web site:
<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/GODORT/resolutions/index.html#2004>

There also was additional discussion about the schedule of Legislation Committee meetings at the conferences. Members preferred to have a longer meeting scheduled on Friday, to help organize the committee's work at the conference. Also, the committee decided to become responsible for maintaining the Fact Sheets and Laws & Legislation pages on the GODORT web site.