

Resolution on Freedom of the Press

Whereas, the controversy between the federal government and The New York Times has drawn into question the policies of the federal government relating to the classification and declassification of information, and Whereas, the American Library Association strongly supports the right of the public to hear what is spoken and to read what is written, and

Whereas, the American Library Association believes that it is a gross abuse of the purpose and intent of security classifications to suppress information which does not directly and immediately endanger the national security now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association endorses a full congressional investigation of the policies of government relating to the classification and declassification of information to: (a) assure that such policies preserve the rights of the people; (b) guarantee that such policies do not operate to contravene freedom of the press; (c) protect the trust of the people in the integrity of their government from being abused or exploited; and be it further

Resolved, that the American Library Association, in accordance with its declared policies on intellectual freedom, voice its full public support of the principle of freedom of the press and of *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Boston Globe* and any other news media in their current battle to keep the American people informed of the actions of its government and that it communicate this to the President of the United States and the news media.