

THE USE OF PRIVATE OR CORPORATE FUNDS TO MAINTAIN SERVICES

WHEREAS, Major urban library systems have laid off employees because of the current fiscal crisis, and

WHEREAS, This reduction in staff necessitates a corresponding reduction in services, and

WHEREAS, Many of these libraries have annual income from private or corporate funds which could be used to extend hours of opening and to rehiring staff (private or corporate funds are defined as income from sources other than government funding--this might include overdue fines, fees from photocopy machines, or interest from previously earned income, as well as other sources, depending upon particular circumstances), and

WHEREAS, In this period of economic austerity perquisites must be sacrificed so that basic needs can be met, and

WHEREAS, The goal of ALA is to encourage the promotion of libraries and librarianship to assure the delivery of user-oriented library information services to all, and

WHEREAS, The ALA Council declared in position statement #106.1 (July, 1974), that the "security of employment means that, following the satisfactory completion of a probationary period, the employment of a librarian under permanent appointment carries with it an institutional commitment to continuous employment,"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That ALA strongly urge major library systems to conform with ALA procedure, and to utilize all available private or corporate funds to rehire the maximum number of staff possible to serve the library needs of the community, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That ALA encourage all such library systems to embark upon fund-raising activities to increase annual income from private or corporate funds, whenever legally possible.

Proposed by  
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