

RESOLUTION ON MISINFORMATION TO CITIZENS

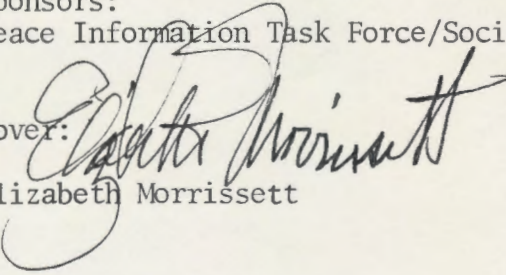
Whereas, The American public has been subjected to extensive
misinformation from all sectors, government and corporate,
and,

Whereas, the public trust is eroded by this activity,
therefore be it

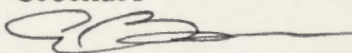
Resolved, that the American Library Association condemns all
restriction of information essential to citizen decision-making
and calls for the release of all information useful to our
legislators, congressmen and ourselves.

Sponsors:
Peace Information Task Force/Social Responsibilities Round Table.

Mover:
Elizabeth Morrisett



Seconder
E.B. Dane



HISTORY: 53.1, 53.1.5,

DATE: June 27, 1987

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION #

RESOLUTION ON MISINFORMATION TO CITIZENS

Whereas, the American public has been subjected to extensive misinformation and withholding of information from all sectors: government, corporate and media; and Whereas, the American Library Association Washington Legislative Office in its chronology of "LESS ACCESS TO LESS INFORMATION BY AND ABOUT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT" has documented this problem for several years, and Whereas Congressional hearings disclosing misinformation and withholding of information from the U. S. Congress and U.S. citizens are currently in the news, therefore be it RESOLVED, that the American Library Association condemns all restriction and misuse of information essential to citizen participation in a democracy and calls for the release of all information useful to our members of Congress, state and local legislators, and ourselves.

Sponsors: ALA/Social Responsibilities Round Table/Peace Information Exchange Task Force.

6/28/87

Mover: Elizabeth Morrissett, Personal member

Seconded: E.B. Dane, Personal member

HISTORY: 53.1 53.1.5

June 27, 1987

appointed to study the issue of ALA representation to and membership in NCATE, with members to be appointed from SCOLE, COA, AASL, and other ALA units with a special interest in library education. Councilor Norman Horrocks asked that the words "other ALA units" be omitted and that the resolution read "...and other units with a special interest in library education," so that members of the committee might be appointed from groups outside of the Association. This change was made by general consent, and Council members then

VOTED, To adopt CD#51, part 2, as amended, that a special task force be appointed to study ALA membership and participation in NCATE and related questions, and that the task force be asked to report to SCOLE and to Council at Midwinter 1988. Members of the task force should be representatives of SCOLE, COA, OLPR, AASL, and other units with a special interest in this issue.

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTIONS. A running account of Membership actions, including all non-policy resolutions not brought before Council for a vote, is attached as Appendix A. Councilor Michael Malinconico introduced the resolutions brought forward from the earlier Membership meetings. After discussion of MBRD#3, Misinformation to Citizens, Councilor Francis Buckley asked to introduce a substitute resolution; while he rewrote the substitution, Council considered the following resolutions.

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION ON ALA AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY AND PRACTICE (MBRD#6) - Exhibit 12. Councilor Malinconico moved and Council

VOTED, To adopt MBRD#6 as amended in the Membership Meeting, directing ALA Headquarters to prepare a profile of ALA staff by position level, documenting the ratio of minority employees to the number of all employees, and to make this profile available for Council information at the 1988 Midwinter Meeting and print it for membership information in American Libraries.

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION ON CONFERENCE PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY LISTINGS (MBRD#7) - Exhibit 13. Councilors Jeanne Isacco/Patricia Schuman moved and Council

AMENDED, MBRD#7, to insert the words "preliminary and final" in front of "conference program" in the first two Resolved clauses.

Council then

VOTED, To adopt MBRD#7 as amended, directing that the ALA preliminary and final conference programs shall list all hotel entries or meeting rooms which are inaccessible as well as the location at which access is possible; that the ALA preliminary and final conference programs shall list the locations of accessible restrooms for all conference facilities; that the ALA Conference Arrangements staff shall urge all conference hotels and convention centers to indicate, with prominent signs, accessible routes to meeting spaces and restrooms; and that the ALA Conference Arrangements staff will prohibit exhibitors from arranging exhibits that are up steps or otherwise inaccessible for wheelchairs.

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION ON MISINFORMATION TO CITIZENS (MBRD#3 REVISED) - Exhibit 14. Councilor Francis Buckley read the Resolved clauses of his substitute motion, and Council

AMENDED, MBRD#3, by substitution, so that the new Resolved clauses would read as follows: "Resolved, That the American Library Association urge the President and Congress to ensure that the general public and their elected representatives at all levels of government have readily available, accurate, timely, and complete information which is essential to informed citizen participation in a democracy; and be it further Resolved, That this resolution and a copy of 'Less Access to Less Information By and About the U.S. Government' be forwarded to the President, Vice-President, and Speaker of the House of Representatives."

Council then

VOTED, To adopt MBRD#3 as amended.

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION ON PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A TTD/TTY DEVICE AT ALA HEADQUARTERS (MBRD#9) - Exhibit 15. Council next considered MBRD#9 and, when

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RESOLUTION ON MISINFORMATION TO CITIZENS

Whereas, Accurate, timely, and complete information is essential for informed citizen participation in a democracy; and


Whereas, Since 1981, the American Library Association Washington Office chronology, "Less Access to Less Information By and About the U.S. Government," has documented examples of restrictions to public access to federal government information, such as misinformation, disinformation, and reductions in the collection and dissemination of government information; and

Whereas, Congressional hearings disclosing misinformation and the withholding of information from Congress and U.S. citizens are currently in the news; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association urge the President and Congress to ensure that the general public and their elected representatives at all levels of government have readily available, accurate, timely, and complete information which is essential to informed citizen participation in a democracy, and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution and a copy of "Less Access to Less Information By and About the U.S. Government" be forwarded to the President, Vice-President, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ADOPTED BY THE
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
July 1, 1987, in San Francisco, California
Transmitted by


Thomas J. Galvin
Secretary of Council