Resolution Urging Library Workers and Supporters to Participate in the 2024 Elections

Whereas libraries and library workers are facing many critical public policy issues, such as protecting the freedom to read, funding and support for libraries, broadband and technology access, fair copyright and competition, access to government information and services, and Public Service Loan Forgiveness for library workers; and

Whereas the American Library Association’s Core Values underscores our commitment to-upholding these issues; and

Whereas local, state, and federal elected officials make laws and policies affecting libraries and library workers; and

Whereas voters in many jurisdictions decide whether to approve ballot measures affecting libraries, such as bond issues, millages, and other referenda; and

Whereas many candidate and ballot measure elections held in 2024 will impact conditions for library workers and libraries’ ability to serve their communities; and

Whereas participating in the electoral process is an opportunity to advocate for our profession, institutions, and values; and

Whereas the American Library Association for decades has provided resources to help libraries provide information and services that support library users’ civic learning, voter registration, and voter participation; and

Whereas the American Library Association launched Reader Voter Ready in April 2024, a campaign to inform and prepare library workers and supporters for this year’s elections, and to support libraries that provide voter engagement resources and services to their communities; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members,

Urges all ALA members, library workers, and library supporters, to participate in the 2024 elections and future elections, including, as applicable, by registering to vote; confirming or updating their voter registration; informing themselves about races on their ballot; engaging with campaigns, colleagues, and community members; and voting.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
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Leslie Burger, Interim ALA Executive Director, and Secretary of the ALA Council