

# AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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## RESOLUTION ON FBI LIBRARY AWARENESS PROGRAM

- Whereas, The American Library Association has previously condemned the FBI Library Awareness Program and similar programs because of their infringement on the exercise of First Amendment rights; and
- Whereas, The American Library Association has expressed its strong support for H.R. 50 "a bill to regulate the conduct of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in certain matters relating to the exercise of rights protected by the first article of amendment of the Federal Constitution;" and
- Whereas, Documents recently released by the FBI under the Freedom of Information Act reveal that 266 checks were conducted on names of individuals connected in any way with the Library Awareness Program since October 1987 "to determine whether a Soviet active measures campaign had been initiated to discredit the Library Awareness Program;" and
- Whereas, The FBI has continued to visit libraries and seek out librarians, including a documented visit as recently as December 20, 1989; now therefore be it
- Resolved, That the American Library Association request that the FBI provide the 266 individuals and subsequent others for whom indices checks were made with copies of their own files at no cost; and be it further
- Resolved, That the American Library Association request that the FBI, after providing the information to the individuals involved, expunge such records from FBI files; and be it further
- Resolved, That the American Library Association express its outrage at the continuation of the Library Awareness Program and all similar attempts to intimidate the library community and to interfere with the privacy rights of users; and be it further
- Resolved, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology and the Law, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights and to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.



ADOPTED BY THE  
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
January 10, 1990, in Chicago, Illinois

*Linda F. Crismond*  
Linda F. Crismond, Secretary of Council