

## RESOLUTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND WIKILEAKS

- WHEREAS, WikiLeaks is a non-profit organization that publishes submissions of secret documents from anonymous sources and news leaks; and
- WHEREAS, WikiLeaks has made available thousands of critical documents concerning United States foreign and military policy; and
- WHEREAS, WikiLeaks is performing a vital watchdog role by expanding citizens' knowledge on matters of vital public concern, following in the steps of the newspapers that published the Pentagon Papers, courageously supplied by Daniel Ellsberg; and
- WHEREAS, Support for WikiLeaks should be a concern for all those who believe in the right to know and intellectual freedom, and most especially librarians; and
- WHEREAS, WikiLeaks is under tremendous pressure from many governments, elected officials, and prominent personalities to stop publishing leaked documents; and
- WHEREAS, The American Library Association has signed a joint letter with many other organizations asking the United States government to reverse its order to US government agencies blocking access to WikiLeaks, in support of publishers' and citizens' first amendment rights, and against the possible application of the Espionage Act against WikiLeaks; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the American Library Association

1. Supports the rights of WikiLeaks to publish leaked government documents;
2. Commends the efforts of WikiLeaks to expunge from documents names and other material deemed potentially harmful to innocent people;
3. Commends WikiLeaks for performing a public service by making available important documents related to foreign and military policy;
4. Recommends that libraries consider linking their websites to the WikiLeaks website where appropriate; and
5. Condemns any harassment of WikiLeaks.

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