



Montana Library Association

From the Mountains to the Prairies

Resolution to urge Congress to fund the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), to direct IMLS to fully fund the Grants to States Program and the Native American Grants Program under the Library Services Technology Act, and other grants that support Montana libraries.

Whereas, for over 20 years, IMLS has provided support to libraries across Montana through the Library Services Technology Act to fund library development through the Montana State Library and Native American grants and through leadership grants awarded to Montana libraries;

Whereas, organizations in Montana received \$1.9M from IMLS last federal fiscal year to fund library development services, technology, professional development and lifelong learning in all Montana communities;

Whereas, the reduction or elimination of the IMLS funding would severely impact information services available to Montana citizens;

Whereas, libraries in the State of Montana provide resources for veterans, assistance to small businesses, internet access, support for job seekers, technology training, and transparent access to the information necessary to support a free and open democracy;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Montana Library Association (MLA):

1. Urges Congress to pass, and President Trump to sign, a federal budget that appropriates \$210 million to IMLS.
2. Urges IMLS to fully fund the Grants to States and Native American Grant Program authorized through the Library Services Technology Act and to continue to fund leadership grants for all libraries.
3. Expresses support and appreciation for the Montana State Library for their work to support library development for all Montana libraries as funded with Grants to States monies.

*Adopted by the Montana Library Association Membership
March 31, 2017*



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Resolution on Montana “Restroom Initiatives”

Whereas, The Montana House of Representatives recently tabled a bill that would have required a person using a locker room or bathroom in a government building or public school to use the facility designated for that person's biological sex;

Whereas, groups from outside Montana have promised that they will bring a ballot initiative to the November general election ballot to include the same discriminatory language of that bill;

Whereas, any pending “Restroom Initiatives” pertaining to locker room and bathroom use based on a person’s biological sex would preempt local ordinances allowing transgender individuals to use the multiple occupancy bathroom or changing facility that corresponds to their gender identity; and

Whereas, any pending “Restroom Initiatives” have attracted significant opposition from private citizens, human rights activists, Montana ACLU, non-profit organizations, The Montana League of Cities and Towns, and more; and

Whereas, any pending “Restroom Initiatives” would discriminate against, and undermine the civil rights of the transgender and LGBT community; and

Whereas, any pending “Restroom Initiatives” will have a significant, negative impact on library staff all over the state of Montana; and

Whereas, any pending “Restroom Initiatives” are in conflict with the American Library Association’s core values of diversity and inclusiveness; and

Whereas, The Montana Library Association represents a broad, statewide community, and believes policy decisions should be made at the local level to reflect local priorities and best serve the community;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Montana Library Association does not support any pending “Restroom Initiatives” because they would conflict with the library profession’s core values of diversity and inclusiveness, would preempt local control, and will negatively impact Montana library staffs.

*Adopted by the Montana Library Association Membership
March 31, 2017*



Montana Library Association

From the Mountains to the Prairies

Resolution on Funding the Preservation of Federal Government Publications

Whereas, Democracy depends upon the public's access to information from and about the United States federal government; and

Whereas, to preserve the historic record of our country, the United States Congress established a distributed system of Federal depository libraries to safeguard government information from dangers ranging from bit-rot to fire; and

Whereas, the United States Federal depository libraries provide public access to federal government publications and information without charge; and

Whereas, Federal depository libraries spend millions of dollars collecting, housing, cataloging, and providing public access to federal government information, and

Whereas, Federal depository libraries lack enough money to preserve millions of federal government publications in paper, microform, and digital formats; and

Whereas, the U. S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) established FIPNet (Federal Information Preservation Network) as part of the "National Plan for Access to U. S. Government Information" – a strategy for a collaborative network of information professionals working in various partner roles to ensure access to the national collection of government information for future generations. FIPNet contributes to the preservation of both tangible and digital government information, and elevates the public awareness and prestige of local initiatives, specific collections of government information, and the institutions and agencies that have stewardship over them; and

Whereas, GPO is not authorized to provide funding directly to depository libraries that agree to preserve federal government publications; and

Whereas, the United States Congress can authorize GPO to provide funding to depository libraries; and
Whereas, GPO needs additional funding and staff to provide on-site support for libraries in the building of an inventory and catalog of all their federal government publications in order to plan for preservation;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The Montana Library Association urges the U. S. Congress to fully fund preservation of Federal government publications housed in federal depository libraries; and

The Montana Library Association urges the U. S. Congress to authorize the U. S. Government Publishing Office to provide funds directly to libraries for the preservation of the federal government publications (paper, microform, and digital) housed in their libraries; and

The Montana Library Association urges Congress to provide funding to the Superintendent of Documents (GPO) so agency librarians can travel to depository libraries to advise librarians in

preservation activities, including inventorying, cataloging, and planning for preservation of government publications.

*Adopted by the Montana Library Association Membership
March 31, 2017*



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From the Mountains to the Prairies

Resolution Thanking the Host City, Conference Planning Committee, and Doug and Debbi Kramer, our Conference Planners

Whereas, the Montana Library Association has had a wonderful conference in the City of Billings; and

Whereas, the Conference Planning Committee members Cindy Patterson, Eileen Wright, and Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson have planned a magnificent meeting; and

Whereas, Doug and Debbi Kramer, as our Conference Planners have done a wonderful job of keeping us all fed, housed, and entertained; and

Whereas, the conference committee and subcommittees have worked miracles for the conference attendees; presenters; exhibitors; award winners, and

Whereas, the conference is declared a complete success;

Therefore, be it resolved, that Montana Library Association membership thank all who have been involved in this venture and give them three cheers!

*Adopted by the Montana Library Association Membership
March 31, 2017*