

**This resolution was *WITHDRAWN*—no discussion or action was taken on it.**

### **Resolution on Support and Endorsement of the RUSA Statement on Access**

Whereas access to information is a core value of the library profession (ALA Policy B.1.1) and is part of our Code of Professional Ethics (ALA Policy B.1.2) and expressed in the *Library Bill of Rights* ([www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill)) and Key Action Areas ([www.ala.org/aboutala/missionhistory/keyactionareas/equityaction](http://www.ala.org/aboutala/missionhistory/keyactionareas/equityaction)) ;

Whereas this statement brings together all/many aspects of access to information to provide a framework for translating our values into achievable goals and objectives;

Whereas issues of access and accessibility continue to evolve and bring forward emerging concerns that are addressed across the Association in more specific guidelines, best practices, and courses of action: now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. supports and endorses the RUSA Statement on Access as written by the RUSA Access to Information Committee and ratified May 28 2013 by the RUSA Board;
2. encourages that this Statement be promoted and incorporated in relevant ALA webpages, press releases, blogs, committees and groups; and
3. uses RUSA Statement on Access as a springboard for groups, divisions, committees and others to articulate additional guidelines, best practices, and courses of actions.

Moved by: Jennifer C. Boettcher, RUSA Councilor, [571 216-3499](tel:5712163499)  
Seconded by: Richard Paustenbaugh, Oklahoma Chapter Councilor, [405-624-0106](tel:4056240106)  
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## **RUSA Statement on Access**

As reference and user services librarians, we believe that access to information is a human right.

We value:

1. Libraries' role in providing people with equitable and open access to information in all formats that transcends limitations of personal economics;
2. Our professional commitment to intellectual freedom and fair use;
3. Protection of patron privacy;
4. The freedom to read;
5. Creation, distribution, and possession of information that is free from interference and censorship; and
6. Equal, ready and equitable access to information collected, compiled, produced, funded and/or disseminated by government agencies.

We support libraries, publishers, and lawmakers in:

1. Crafting copyright laws that reasonably preserve authors' intellectual property without compromising the library user's access to information;
2. Providing equitable access to information for all library users;
3. Ensuring long-term access to print and electronic information through robust preservation and access programs; and
4. Facilitating digital and information literacy among library users.

## Resolution: Resolution on Support and Endorsement of the RUSA Statement on Access

Submitted on Tue, 06/25/2013 - 21:54

Submitted by user:

Submitted values are:

Date:

Resolution author(s): Jennifer C. Boettcher E-mail address:

[boettcher@georgetown.edu](mailto:boettcher@georgetown.edu) 1. Title of Resolution: Resolution on Support and

Endorsement of the RUSA Statement on Access 2. ALA Units and/or Committees

Consulted (if any):

RUSA Executive

RUSA Access to Information Committee

Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) 3.

Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any):

Information Freedom Committee (seeking)

Committee on Professional Ethics (seeking) 4. Fiscal implications: none 5. List

all parties to whom resolution should be sent:

6. Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Whereas access to information is a core value of the library profession (ALA Policy Manual B.1.1) and is part of our Code of Professional Ethics (ALA Policy Manual B.1.2) and expressed in the Library Bill of Rights ([www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill)) and Key Action Areas ([www.ala.org/aboutala/missionhistory/keyactionareas/equityaction](http://www.ala.org/aboutala/missionhistory/keyactionareas/equityaction))

6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint:

ALA has shown support for these concepts before. This Statement is different:

1. It draws together various policies in one statement;

2. It is a statement directed at the frontline librarian members of RUSA, and thus, acts as a model for divisions to highlight the importance of ALA level policies for their own membership;

3. Passage would show support for RUSA's recognition of the practical implications professional values.

6b) Change in existing policy: No change

6c) New policy: no new policy

6d) Policy conflicts: No know conflicts

7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any): RUSA Access to Information Committee (AIC) 8. Pertinent Background Information:

ASCLA has brought forward concerns about wanting to include specify groups and services. I brought those concerns the AIC and they stated that when creating the statement considered many groups, they wanted to keep the Statement general. AIC decided to stay broad, because as soon as they started listing groups, the Statement would have to be inclusive and exclusive. It would be better for those audiences and services groups and units use this Statement as springboard.

In support RUSA has changed the Resolution to include Accessibility to the concept of Access in a Whereas concept.

9. Mover's Name: Jennifer Boettcher

9a) Mover's Local Telephone Number: 571 216-4599

10 Seconder's Name: Richard Paustenbaugh

10a) Seconder's Local Telephone Number: 405 624-0106