

KLA Resolution Supporting ALA Action Against CIPA

Adopted by KLA Council on April 4, 2001

Whereas the recently enacted Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) mandates that libraries and schools install and use filtering software on public Internet computers as a prerequisite for receiving federal funds, including LSTA and E-rate funds; and

Whereas the recently enacted Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (NCIPA) mandates the adoption of a prescriptive Internet safety policy that undermines local control for recipients of E-rate discounts; and

Whereas the Commission on Online Protection (COPA) appointed to study child safety on the Internet concluded what is known in Kansas libraries, that filters are ineffective in blocking all content that some may find objectionable, but do block much useful and constitutionally protected information; and

Whereas libraries and librarians are partners with parents and endeavor to assist their communities in becoming information literate by teaching them to access, evaluate and use information; and

Whereas educating children to use the Internet wisely is their best protection, now and in the future; and

Whereas Kansas libraries adopt and implement local Internet use policies in the same responsible manner other policies are developed, based upon the needs of their communities; and

Whereas the Kansas Library Association has not recommended the use of Internet filters in libraries, and opposes attempts by federal and state governments to set local policy; and

Whereas the American Library Association Council and Executive Board have resolved to challenge CIPA and NCIPA in federal courts; and

Therefore be it resolved that the Kansas Library Association applauds, endorses and supports this legal action proposed by the American Library Association.

Mandates:

ALA President
ALA Washington Office
ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee
ALA Chapter Relations Office & listserv