



Idaho Library Association Board of Directors Resolution in Support of the American Library Association's Forward Together Recommendations

Certified copy of the resolution passed at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Idaho Library Association, held January 16, 2020 at the monthly board meeting.

Whereas a strong, healthy, and vibrant national professional association is essential to the health of our libraries and our profession; and

Whereas the American Library Association and its chapters represent an important coalition that ensures effective library advocacy, outreach, and professional development at the national, regional, state, and local levels; and

Whereas the current governance structure of the American Library Association limits each state, province, or territory to only one chapter, thus excluding many regional and state level organizations from full participation in the business of the association; and

Whereas the social and political environment in which libraries operate is swiftly changing and developing, thus requiring library organizations to act quickly in response to current events; and

Whereas the current structure of the American Library Association limits the ability of the organization to act with the speed necessary to respond to many issues affecting libraries, library users, and library workers; and

Whereas the recommendations put forth by the American Library Association's Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness in the 2019 *Forward Together* document would, if implemented, increase engagement opportunities for chapters and their members, give chapters a significant voice in governance of the association, and allow more flexibility for individual chapters to choose how they are represented in the American Library Association; and

Whereas the recommendations put forth by the American Library Association's Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness in the 2019 *Forward Together* document would, if implemented, create a more agile governance structure that would enable timely responses to emerging issues.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Idaho Library Association

1. supports the recommendations put forth by the American Library Association's Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness in the 2019 *Forward Together* document; and
2. urges the American Library Association to adopt the changes proposed in *Forward Together*.

Approved: (January 16, 2020)