

Resolution to Support and Commend the Work of Librarians and Institutions Preserving
Government Information since January 21, 2025

WHEREAS, since the Presidential election of 2024, librarians, scientists, researchers, journalists, students, and regular citizens have expressed concern about the erasure of federal government information and data from the .gov and .mil domains, social media, and other online locations;

WHEREAS, after the presidential inauguration and transition on January 20, 2025, previously accessible federal agency web pages from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Justice Programs, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Energy, were temporarily or permanently removed, including academic papers and datasets, as covered in major news outlets such as *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, *Nikkei News*, *NBC News*, *ABC News*, and the *BBC*;

WHEREAS, librarians, archivists, and other interested institutions worked tirelessly, before and after the presidential transition, to ensure that critical information was curated, preserved, and freely accessible to the public, as embodied in the [American Library Association's \(ALA\) Key Principles of Government Information](#);

WHEREAS, these organizations include the Data Liberation Project, the Data Rescue Project, End of Term Archive, Environmental Data and Governance Initiative, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), and Public Environmental Data Partners; academic libraries and research institutions affiliated with, among others, Boston University, Harvard University, Stanford University, the University of Chicago, the University of Minnesota, the University of North Texas, the University of Washington; and the many individual librarians and archivists who have volunteered thousands of collective hours of their time and expertise to collect, curate, preserve, protect, and keep open and accessible federal information sources;

WHEREAS, much of this work would not be possible without the institutional and infrastructural support of the Internet Archive, whose groundbreaking technologies and skilled staff have enabled the work of many of the organizations and individuals listed above.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that that the American Library Association (ALA) on behalf of its members:

1. issue and widely distribute a statement supporting the preservation of digital government information and data and in that statement;
2. urge the U.S. and other governments to act in accordance with ALA's *Key Principles of Government Information* including collecting, maintaining, and disseminating government information to the public;

3. commend the aforementioned organizations, institutions, librarians, and archivists who have supported preservation and access to federal government information in 2025 and beyond; and
4. commend the ongoing work of the Internet Archive in providing preservation and access to public domain materials, including federal government publications and data.

Mover: Benjamin Aldred

Seconder: Aaron Wilson