

Resolution to Rescind Meeting Rooms: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* (2017-2018 ALA CD#19.6_62617_act)

Whereas the American Library Association values equity, diversity, inclusion, and intellectual freedom; has recognized that this work specifically includes “addressing, dismantling, and transforming policies, structures and biases throughout the organization and the field of librarianship”; and has developed strategic goals to “Establish ALA as a major voice for the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in all areas of information policy, [and to] provide safe, respectful space for diverse voices and perspectives”;¹

Whereas there are grave concerns expressed by many ALA members about the recently adopted changes to Meeting Rooms: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*;

Whereas the language “hate groups” and “hate speech” was added in the final revision of Meeting Rooms: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* (2017-2018 ALA CD#19.6_62617_act) and the introduction of the motion failed to mention this key revision to a section that had received significant prior comment; and

Whereas the Intellectual Freedom Committee announced on July 14, 2018 that they heard the community concern and formed a working group to immediately begin revising the interpretation; now, therefore, be it

¹ ALA Strategic Directions, 2017, http://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/cro/getinvolved/Strategic-Directions-2017_Update.pdf

Resolved, that the ALA Council:

1. rescinds approval of Meeting Rooms: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* (2017-2018 ALA CD#19.6_62617_act) and revert to the 1991² version as the current official policy statement; and
2. affirms the Intellectual Freedom Committee's formation of a working group to collaboratively and inclusively produce a new draft of the interpretation for Council to review by October 1st, 2018.

Mover: Melissa Cardenas-Dow, Councilor-at-Large

Seconders: Stephanie Chase, PLA Division Councilor

Emily Drabinski, Councilor-at-Large

Erica Findley, Councilor-at-Large

Ed Garcia, ALA Executive Board

Martin Garnar, IFRT Councilor

April Hathcock, Councilor-at-Large

Maria McCauley, ALA Executive Board

Jessica Schomberg, Councilor-at-Large

Erin Stalberg, ALCTS Division Councilor

Tyler Dzuba, Councilor-at-Large

JP Porcaro, NMRT Councilor

Virginia Alexander Cononie, South Carolina Chapter Councilor

Sara Dallas, Councilor-at-Large

Jules Shore, Councilor-at-Large

Raymond Pun, Councilor-at-Large

Mary Glendening, Councilor-at-Large

Mel Gooch, Councilor-at-Large

² "Meeting Rooms: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights", American Library Association, July 2, 1991. <https://alair.ala.org/handle/11213/1622>

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, Councilor-at-Large
Tara Brady, SRRT Councilor
Selina Gomez-Beloz, Councilor-at-Large
Sara Kelly Johns, Councilor-at-Large
Danielle Jones, Oregon Chapter Councilor
Sonia Alcantara-Antoine, Councilor-at-Large
Mike Marlin, Councilor-at-Large
Lynda Kellam, North Carolina Chapter Councilor
Karen Downing, ALA Executive Board