

**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 “[e]stablish 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”;<sup>1</sup>

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

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<sup>1</sup> ALA Strategic Directions, 2017, [http://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/cro/getinvolved/Strategic-Directions-2017\\_Update.pdf](http://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/cro/getinvolved/Strategic-Directions-2017_Update.pdf)

**Resolved,** that the ALA Council:

1. rescind approval of Meeting Rooms: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* (2017-2018 ALA CD#19.6\_62617\_act) and revert to the 1991<sup>2</sup> version as the current official policy statement; and
2. affirm 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, Executive Board

Martin Garnar, IFRT Councilor

April Hathcock, Councilor-at-Large

Maria McCauley, 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

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<sup>2</sup> "Meeting Rooms", American Library Association, July 2, 1991.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20180101074536/http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/meetingrooms>

Mary Glendening, Councilor-at-Large

Mel Gooch, Councilor-at-Large

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