



RESOLUTION ON THE WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library was established by the 1853 Organic Act of the Territory of Washington;

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library distributes \$3 million of appropriated federal funds annually through demonstration projects, grants, technical assistance and training for local library staff; and must be present to receive said federal funds;

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library provides library services in thirteen correctional institutions (Airway Heights, Clallam Bay, McNeil Island, Penitentiary at Walla Walla, Corrections Center at Shelton, Corrections Center for Women at Purdy, Reformatory at Monroe, Stafford Creek and Twin Rivers), two state hospitals (Western and Eastern), and Rainier School;

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library is the only statewide repository for Washington newspapers which are used by researchers, historians and genealogists;

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library is designated the regional federal document depository for Washington and Alaska;

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library provides experienced librarians who train and assist the Legislature, legislative staff and state employees to find the information they need to do their jobs more effectively, and provides ready access to newspapers, state and federal documents, specialized licensed databases and materials on public policy issues;

WHEREAS, The Washington State Library has centralized the purchasing of expensive databases for libraries statewide resulting in greater availability of electronic information, at less cost per library for the state's libraries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

Resolved, That the Executive Board of the Washington Library Association protests the Governor's proposal to eliminate the Washington State Library in his 2002 budget and to close it by October 15, 2002; and

BE IT FURTHER

Resolved, That the Executive Board of the Washington Library Association will work to reinstate the Washington State Library in the 2002 Washington State Budget, by all means at its disposal.

Passed -- 28 December 2001