

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries serves the citizens of Oklahoma by providing excellent information services and by creating and preserving unique government information resources; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries saves the taxpayers of Oklahoma millions each year by consolidating services such as licensing information databases and providing Interlibrary Loan services that many libraries could not otherwise afford; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries directly and indirectly supports legislative and gubernatorial goals such as Healthy Citizens and Strong Families, Educated Citizens and Exemplary Schools, Safe Citizens and Secure Communities, Prosperous Citizens and Thriving Economy, and Effective Services and Accountable Government by providing free and open access to information in a variety of formats; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries provides unique, comprehensive, and specialized training education, and professional development to library professionals and para-professionals across the state, thereby assuring quality library and information services to the citizens of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries facilitates access to resources through consolidation and coordination of opportunities for funding from the state, federal, philanthropic, private, business, and local sources; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries provides direct and indirect support to all the citizens of Oklahoma who are working to improve their lives through literacy, citizenship, lifelong learning, career and job preparation or advancement, business or entrepreneurial enterprise, and cultural expression and enrichment; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Libraries provides specialized services and expertise that are unique to the profession and responsibilities of librarianship;

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the undersigned, support the goal of the Oklahoma Library Association “to inform and encourage Oklahoma legislators to support the efficient, effective work of the professional staff of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in their efforts to provide cost savings to local communities and tax payers, shared resources, and coordination and oversight of services for all Oklahomans regardless of age, education, location or social circumstance;” and we believe that this organization that provides unique yet ubiquitous service to the citizens of Oklahoma should maintain its administrative and organizational autonomy and receive funding at a level appropriate for providing the quality resources and service the citizens of Oklahoma deserve.