

H. Res. 1222

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

April 13, 2010.

Whereas the Nation's school, academic, public, and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of people in the United States, today, more than ever;

Whereas librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and backgrounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn, and work in a challenging economy;

Whereas libraries are part of the American Dream, places for opportunity, education, self-help, and lifelong learning;

Whereas according to a December 2008 National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) report, public library use increased to 1,400,000,000 visits nationwide during fiscal year 2006, among all types of library users, continuing a long term trend of increased library usage;

Whereas libraries play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities;

Whereas libraries help people of all ages discover a world of knowledge, both in person and online, as well as provide personal service and assistance in finding needed information;

Whereas libraries are a key player in the national discourse on intellectual freedom and equity of access;

Whereas libraries are narrowing the “digital divide”, by providing no-fee public computer and Internet access to accommodate the growing need for access to digital and on-line information, including e-government, continuing education, and employment opportunities;

Whereas in 71 percent of communities, libraries have the only no-fee public computers; and

Whereas libraries, librarians, library workers, and supporters across the United States will celebrate National Library Week, April 11–17, 2010: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Library Week;

(2) encourages all residents to visit a library to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available, and to thank their librarians and library workers for making information accessible to all who walk through the library’s doors; and

(3) supports librarians’ efforts to ensure that all Americans can continue to access 21st century library services in school, public, academic, and special libraries.

Attest:

Clerk.