

MORE THAN A BUILDING: SAMPLE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, full participation in our democracy depends on an informed electorate with access to diverse range of experiences, ideas, and viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, our Nation's future as a leader in innovation and creativity is facilitated by our commitment to the free exchange of ideas; and

WHEREAS, access to information is essential to an individual's meaningful exercise of their own freedom of speech and other Constitutional freedoms; and

WHEREAS, libraries are places of opportunity, providing access to information, instruction, connection, and programs to all members of the community regardless of race, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, religious or political beliefs; and

WHEREAS, [district, city, county]'s public, school, and academic libraries work with families and individuals to serve the unique information needs of each member of the community; and

WHEREAS, the professional staff and volunteers in Illinois' public, school, and academic libraries protect an individual's freedom to read, learn, and explore ideas in accordance with local policies, state law, and the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, threats to libraries are intended to restrict a community's access to the multiplicity of ideas and viewpoints that reflect the human experience, thereby diminishing our capacity for empathy and understanding, as well as our ability to fully engage in our democracy; now, therefore,

be it RESOLVED that [district, city, county] declares that [library name] is More Than a Building; it is a vibrant community for learning, engagement, and opportunity; and

be it RESOLVED that [body name] affirms the critical role of professional library staff and volunteers in building that community in service to all; and

be it finally RESOLVED that [district, city, county] commits to upholding the promise of libraries and, therefore, stands firmly with the library community and against attempts to restrict access to the facilities, staff, resources, or programs that make [library name] part of the critical infrastructure of our community.

Signed

Title

Date