



April 18, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives

RE: FDLP Modernization Act of 2018 (H.R. 5305) – SUPPORT

Dear Speaker Ryan, Majority Leader McCarthy and Minority Leader Pelosi,

We write in strong support of the FDLP Modernization Act of 2018 (H.R. 5305) and respectfully ask for prompt consideration of this commonsense, bipartisan legislation.

The Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) is a collaboration between the federal government and more than 1,100 participating libraries, such as the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Memorial Library in Madison, Wisconsin; the Kern County Library in Bakersfield, California; the University of California, Hastings College of the Law Library in San Francisco, California; and the California State Library. The FDLP provides essential information to America’s businesses, legal system, researchers, and the general public, by helping them access federal laws, regulations, and other publications.

The FDLP Modernization Act would update and strengthen this vital program to ensure that members of the public have effective and long-term no-fee access to government information. The bill would streamline program requirements and eliminate outdated rules, update authorities to account for the transition to electronic publishing, and safeguard these invaluable documents of our nation’s history.

Developed following a series of hearings by the Committee on House Administration, the bill has broad support from library organizations as well as the Government Publishing Office. We applaud Chairman Harper, Ranking Member Brady, and Committee members for their leadership on this legislation, which we hope the House will be able to promptly consider.

Sincerely,

Kathi Kromer  
Associate Executive Director  
American Library Association

Prudence S. Adler  
Associate Executive Director  
Association of Research Libraries

Emily Feltren  
Director of Government Relations  
American Association of Law Libraries

Timothy Cherubini  
Executive Director  
Chief Officers of State Library Agencies