Houston Area Law Librarians

A
RESOLUTION
to support
Enactment of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act
in the
State of Texas

WHEREAS, Houston Area Law Librarians believes permanent public access to official, authentic legal information is critical to the legal system of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Houston Area Law Librarians holds that information published on government websites must be trustworthy and reliable; and

WHEREAS, Houston Area Law Librarians promotes the idea that information on government websites must be preserved and permanently accessible, and offered to the public without charge whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Houston Area Law Librarians has found that the State of Texas has not yet met its responsibility to provide trustworthy, reliable access to online legal information; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act promulgated by the Uniform Law Commission provides a technology-neutral, outcomes-based approach to ensuring that online state legal material deemed official will be preserved and will be permanently available to the public in unaltered form; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that if legal material is published only in electronic form, it must be designated official; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that electronic legal material that has been designated official must be capable of being authenticated, preserved and permanently accessible to the public; and

WHEREAS, members of Houston Area Law Librarians have advocated for adoption the Act and have supported similar efforts of its parent organization, the American Association of Law Libraries, be it

RESOLVED, that Houston Area Law Librarians supports enactment of the Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act in the State of Texas and in all other states throughout the United States; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Houston Area Law Librarians encourages all local chapters of the American Association of Law Libraries and other interested associations throughout the State of Texas to adopt this resolution.

Endorsed by vote of the Houston Area Law Librarians Executive Board on the 22nd day of January, 2019.

Colleen C. Manning, President

Katy Badeaux, Secretary