

Chapter 20: Legislation Committee

I. Purpose

The Legislation Committee shall identify issues requiring action; prepare or advise on resolutions for the membership, Steering Committee, task forces and committees; assist the ALA Washington Office on issues affecting federal government legislation; and assist and coordinate legislative action with other ALA bodies

II. Organization

In accordance with the GODORT Bylaws (Article IV, Section 1), all appointments begin at the start of new business at the Steering Committee meeting of the Annual Conference.

This committee is composed of six members appointed to staggered year terms, and the GODORT Councilor (ex officio).

A. Chair –

The Chair of the committee shall be appointed from among the committee members by the GODORT Chair with the approval of the Steering Committee.

B. Members –

V. Activities and Projects

A. Resolutions

1. GODORT Checklist of Resolutions

The text of all resolutions, in the form that they were passed at the GODORT Membership meeting, are included in the minutes of the GODORT Membership meeting and posted on the wiki

The DttP Editor will publish a list of the titles of resolutions annually.

2. Guidelines for Preparation of Resolutions for Presentation to GODORT

The following guidelines are addressed to individuals and units preparing resolutions to come before GODORT

- a. Proposed resolutions that instruct officers of GODORT to communicate with another ALA unit or officer, or to communicate with an individual or group outside of ALA, should be submitted to the legislation Committee for comment. Proposed resolutions should be submitted to the Committee as early as possible, before or during the Midwinter Meeting or Annual Conference. Furthermore, proposed resolutions should meet all criteria listed in items (b) through (l) below at the time they are submitted.
- b. A resolution should be complete so that, upon passage, it becomes a clear and formal expression of the opinion or will of the membership.
- c. The resolution should show clearly the initiating individual or unit.
- d. The resolution should address only one topic or issue.
- e. The terms used in a resolution should be readily understandable and have specific definition.
- f. The resolution should clearly indicate:
 - i. Action to be taken (write a letter, call, etc.)
 - ii. Who should take action (GODORT Chair, Chair of Federal Documents Task Force, etc.)
 - iii. Who should receive action (GPO Public Printer, Superintendent of Documents; Congress Committee Subcommittee, etc.); who receives copies.
- g. If the resolution calls for a specific action or a course of action in certain circumstances, the resolution should specify the resources needed to carry out the directive.
- h. A copy of the resolution must be submitted to the GODORT Secretary at the time of presentation.
- i. All resolutions must be submitted by a member of GODORT.
- j. The mover of a resolution shall state whether the resolution amends or creates policy and shall identify the policy being changed and/or indicate the portion of the resolution to be cited as policy. If a policy sets forth conflicts with another policy, provision to resolve the conflict shall be made.

k.