**EBD #12.12**

**2020-2021**

**TO:** ALA Executive Board

**RE:** Public Policy and Advocacy Office Report

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

No action requested

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Kathi Kromer, Associate Executive Director

(202) 628-8410

[kkromer@alawash.org](mailto:kkromer@alawash.org)

**DATE:** Friday, October 2, 2020

**BACKGROUND:**

Report of activities of ALA’s Public Policy and Advocacy Office

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Public Policy and Advocacy Report

**ALA PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY OFFICE REPORT**

ADVOCACY OUTREACH

**‘Holding Space’ national tour rallies ALA members and library supporters**

Working with other ALA units, PPA coordinated President Julius Jefferson’s virtual cross-country tour, [“Holding Space: a national conversation series with libraries.”](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/holding-space) Jefferson convened conversations with over 100 librarians, library workers, volunteers, community partners, and officials representing all levels of government, including four members of Congress. The tour drew more than 2300 virtual attendees to events across 12 locations and continues to accrue asynchronous views on [ALA’s You Tube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY6JdvV7ZFZv6xRKVDWDBGBnMj128Pjsh).

In addition to advocating for the Library Stabilization Fund Act throughout the tour, Jefferson explored the topics of workforce development, broadband access, community engagement and leadership development. The tour included representatives of public, academic, school, state, and special libraries. ALA was pleased to be joined by state associations, state libraries, and ALA affiliated organizations as co-hosts of individual tour stops. Jefferson will present a more detailed report during the President’s report.

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

**ALA leads libraries in charge for complete Census count**

ALA continued to provide resources to support libraries in promoting a complete count in the 2020 Census.

* In June, PPA released a new publication, “[**Libraries and the 2020 Census: Adapting Outreach in Response to COVID-19**](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/CensusTips08_Covid-19_web_061920.pdf).”
* On July 8, PPA presented a free webinar, [“2020 Census: Last Chance for a Complete Count,”](http://www.ala.org/pla/education/onlinelearning/webinars/ondemand/2020census) co-sponsored with PLA and ODLOS.
* In August, PPA and CMO partnered with actress Auli’i Cravalho, star of Disney’s animated film *Moana*, for a [virtual storytime](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/we-count-read-along) to remind families of the importance of completing the 2020 Census.
* In August and September, PPA placed public service announcements about the Census deadline in *American Libraries* magazine, *Public Libraries* magazine, and on the ALA homepage.
* On September 22, PPA sent an email reminder about the Census through the ALA action center.

ALA also worked to ensure that libraries’ Census efforts were visible to elected officials and community leaders. In August, PPA partnered with the Kansas City Public Library to place a [blog post](https://citiesspeak.org/2020/08/12/cities-and-libraries-partner-to-achieve-a-complete-census-count-how-were-doing-it-in-kansas-city/) on the National League of Cities’ blog highlighting the library’s partnership with city leaders to help achieve a complete count.

ALA also continued to secure financial support to advance libraries’ efforts. In September, ALA [announced](http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2020/09/ala-awards-additional-100-library-census-equity-fund-grants) 100 additional Library Census Equity Fund mini-grants to libraries across the country, made possible by a donation from Facebook. In total across all grant grounds, ALA awarded 193 Library Census Equity Fund mini-grants to libraries in 46 states and the District of Columbia, providing more than $380,000 in support.

**Libraries Ready to Code awards new mini-grants**

As part of its ongoing partnership with Google, PPA was awarded $300,000, and over the past year has opened up multiple mini-grant opportunities to teach library users of all ages coding and digital skills. The [Digital Learning Day grant](http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2020/02/libraries-ready-code-awards-microfunding-digital-learning-day) was opened in February to commemorate the official observance in February and give libraries a chance to utilize the Applied Digital Skills curriculum. As libraries did not have the opportunity to work on those programs because of closures due to the pandemic, PPA extended the grant duration to October 31, 2020 and provided library staff with a professional development training to better equip them to conduct virtual programs.

Focusing on the increasing need and popularity of virtual learning, PPA used the remaining funds from Google to open up the [Virtual Learning and Enhancement Mini-grant](http://www.ala.org/tools/readytocode/minigrant). The grant awards $1,000 to selected libraries and connects them with professional development training from Five-Star technologies as well the digital skills curriculum from Google so libraries can continue to help patrons get back into the workforce, keep up with school, and provide broadband connectivity to those who need it at home. The grant will close out by the end of the year with libraries applying what they learn in the training provided between October and December 2020.

**Libraries Build Business cohort begins implementing grants**

The Libraries Build Business cohort spent the summer working through “Phase 0” of the project and preparing for implementation of their projects. Due to the pandemic, the cohort adjusted and pivoted their planned projects to execute them virtually and/or in compliance with health and safety guidelines. Libraries participated in focus groups with ALA’s measurement and evaluation partner, Cicero Group, to identify challenges, needs, and opportunities amid the crisis. Cohort libraries expressed particular concern about overall uncertainty, budgets and public health guidelines, and a pivot toward virtual services to support their patrons and communities. The libraries are pivoting as necessary toward virtual programming and services while keeping the spirit and intention of their projects intact. The findings from these focus groups are available on the [Libraries Build Business webpage](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/workforce/grant).

In July, in collaboration with Google.org, ALA formally announced the Libraries Build Business project with two events: [*Build Your Online Presence with Google and Your Local Library*](https://growonair.withgoogle.com/events/build_your_online_presence_with_google_and_your_local_library), a Grow with Google On Air session featuring two Libraries Build Business libraries, and an [informational Lunch & Learn](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yW2uYvWPIe0&feature=youtu.be) to introduce the cohort to the field. Each library participated in the Lunch & Learn by preparing a video overview of their projects to share during the event. We continue to promote news from the project and have updated the webpage and shared news on Twitter and LinkedIn. In early September, the ALA team hosted an [Instagram Live Q&A](https://www.instagram.com/tv/CFNKiYxn0F0/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link) with one of the cohort libraries, Gwinnett County (Georgia) Public Library. The library’s [New Start Entrepreneurship Incubator](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/Gwinett_County.pdf), which serves community members who have reentered society after being in prison or jail. This will be a monthly series going forward, with an opportunity to feature all cohort libraries.

The cohort formally kicked off the implementation phase and hosted a virtual convening to train the cohort on the framework, Theory of Change, and measurement instruments in August, led by Cicero Group. The ALA project team worked with Cicero to update the Theory of Change, which informs the M&E framework, to include metrics for economic recovery and reflect some of the changes to the programs caused by the pandemic. The two-day virtual convening was filled with interactive activities and discussion to collaboratively design survey instruments, reporting forms, and focus group protocols. The cohort will begin collecting data and starting up their programs this fall. In addition to the convening, the cohort continues to meet regularly, building a solid peer network.

**ALA highlights library services to returning citizens**

In September ALA released a new policy perspective report, [Libraries & Reentry: The Importance of Public Spaces, Technologies, and Community to Formerly Incarcerated Patrons (PDF)](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/tools/Libraries%26Reentry_WEB_090620%20%282%29.pdf). Authored by former Google fellow and ALA Research Associate Katelyn Ringrose, the paper explores the role of libraries in the reentry process, focusing on how library services help reduce the probability of recidivism and ease some of the burdens associated with exiting prison or jail. The report outlines the many ways that libraries and librarians enable formerly incarcerated patrons to reintegrate into the workforce by learning computer skills, improving literacy, and attaining degrees. Dovetailing with the report release, on Wednesday, September 16, PPA showcased a new library program to support returning citizens in [an Instagram live event](https://www.instagram.com/tv/CFNKiYxn0F0/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link) with leaders from the New Start Entrepreneurship Incubator at Gwinnett County (Ga.) Public Library, a cohort member of ALA’s[Libraries Build Business](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/workforce/grant) project. The program helps formerly incarcerated patrons to develop business ideas, learn what is needed to run a successful business, and receive one-on-one support from successful entrepreneurs and business experts.

**ALA advocacy for eBooks focuses on congressional report**

Advocacy for library eBook lending is focused on the expected and highly anticipated report from the House Judiciary Committee, based on its over 1-year investigation of competition in digital markets. ALA and the Rhode Island Library Association have been in contact with Subcommittee Chairman David Cicilline’s office and subcommittee staff to remind them about library eBook issues. The report’s expected release date is October 5.

On August 27, Alan Inouye, Senior Director, Public Policy & Government Relations, gave a [keynote talk](http://conference2020.nelib.org/week2/) on eBook advocacy at the New England Library Association Virtual Conference. This address discussed the history of library advocacy, the current state of eBook access in the pandemic, and future directions for advocacy, which includes stepped up legislative and regulatory efforts to achieve lasting change.

Other notable developments include the departure at the end of 2020 of Macmillan Publishers CEO John Sargent, as the firm takes a new direction.

**ALA supports state and local libraries**

The Committee on Library Advocacy (COLA) finalized and published [Best Practices for State Advocacy Websites](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/best-practices-state-advocacy-websites). COLA’s State Ecosystem Task Force sunsets in October with the completion of its toolkit for states and a virtual rollout featuring state ecosystem efforts in Indiana, Tennessee, and elsewhere.

After an April in-person training was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic, PPA conducted a virtual Advocacy Academy for the Maryland Library Association in August. Advocacy Academy is ALA’s foundational advocacy training that prepares library workers, volunteers, and supporters to cultivate a climate of support for libraries and deliver messages that will resonate with decision makers at the local, state and federal level.

ALA continues to assist local libraries in handling local concerns, including:

* On behalf of ALA President Julius Jefferson, PPA submitted a letter to the Birmingham city council and mayor, urging that they restore funding to the public library system, which has furloughed nearly ¾ of its staff.
* On behalf of ALA President Julius Jefferson, PPA submitted a letter urging Florida Governor Ron DeSantis to restore funding for the Complete Florida Plus Program following unexpected cuts the Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative and multitype library cooperatives.
* PPA worked with the Office for Intellectual Freedom, United for Libraries, and the Nevada Library Association to submit a joint letter in support of the proposal by Douglas County (NV) Library staff to adopt a diversity statement; and continues to collaborate with ALA units and with the state chapter to support the library staff as they face significant backlash from members of the community.
* PPA has consulted with state and local advocates in Virginia, Alabama, and elsewhere in response to inquiries about library funding and facilities use.

**ALA Policy Corps advocate for pandemic relief bills**

Because of the pandemic, the curriculum for ALA Policy Corps Cohort III continues to be flexible. In July, ALA held a training workshop via Zoom focused on “sausage-making”—how public policy is made behind-the-scenes, in the context of Covid-19 relief legislation. In August, ALA held a check-in and update session for all cohorts and the Policy Corps Advisory Group. ALA is now re-evaluating the curriculum for Cohort III, considering the impacts of the pandemic are likely to be in place for many months into the future. Separately, members of all cohorts have advocated on behalf of ALA and libraries for Covid-19 relief bills, both for general library funding and for broadband access for all.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**ALA promotes broadband access for Tribal libraries**

On September 9, [PPA released](http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2020/09/tribal-libraries-partners-leverage-federal-e-rate-deliver-high-speed) a new Policy Perspectives paper, “[Built by E-Rate: A Case Study of Two Tribally-Owned Fiber Networks and the Role of Libraries in Making It Happen](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/telecom/erate/Built_by_E-Rate_WEB_090420.pdf).” The paper details Tribal libraries’ role in creating two broadband consortia that are owned, operated by, and serving Tribal communities in Northern New Mexico. The multi-million-dollar network was funded through the Federal Communications Commission’s E-rate program, specifically as a result of program changes that ALA advocated for during the 2013-2014 proceeding to modernize the then 15-year-old program.

The new report builds on PPA’s work to support the Tribal Connect Act, bipartisan and bicameral legislation first introduced in 2017 and [newly re-introduced this summer](https://lujan.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/bipartisan-bicameral-tribal-connect-act-introduced-to-increase-high-speed-internet-access-in-indian-country-). U.S. Senators Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Martha McSally (R-Ariz.), Assistant Speaker Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.), and U.S. Representative Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.) introduced the legislation to improve broadband connectivity in Indian Country. The bicameral, bipartisan bill would increase access to the Federal Communications Commission's schools and libraries universal service support program. The $4 billion program, known as E-rate, provides discounts to assist public schools and libraries obtain high-speed internet access and telecommunications at affordable rates.

ALA’s [report was submitted into the congressional record](https://twitter.com/LibraryPolicy/status/1306668767565447174?s=20) by Congressman Ben Ray Luján (D-NM) during an FCC oversight hearing. The report served as the basis of a presentation, *Community Connectors: Tribal Libraries Make Broadband Work,* at the [National Tribal Broadband Summit](https://www.doi.gov/asia/broadband2019/national-tribal-broadband-summit-2020), co-hosted by IMLS, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Department of Agriculture. Leaders from the Middle Rio Grande and Jemez-Zia Pueblo Tribal Consortia held a panel discussion moderated by ALA Associate Director and Senior Policy Advocate Marijke Visser.

**ALA endorses multiple bills to expand broadband access for communities**

PPA continues to advocate for COVID relief funding for libraries to provide Wi-Fi devices such as hotspots and increase Wi-Fi capacity to better provide services to patrons who depend on the library for internet access. To that end, PPA continues to support [bills introduced this summer](https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/latest-broadband-bills/):

* The first version of [the HEROES Act](https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/democrats.appropriations.house.gov/files/documents/Heroes%20Act%20Summary.pdf) (H.R. 6800), which passed the House in mid-May, included $2 billion for hotspots and other devices for library patrons and K–12 students.
* [The Moving Forward Act](https://transportation.house.gov/imo/media/doc/Fact%20sheet%20HR%202%20Moving%20Forward%20Act%20FINAL.pdf) (H.R. 2), a $1.5 billion infrastructure bill passed in the House in June, would touch Americans’ everyday lives on many fronts, from roads and waterways to clean energy, housing, and internet. ALA successfully called on Congress to create opportunities for libraries, including provisions that would establish two grant programs to support digital literacy training, requisite devices, and community partnerships to increase broadband adoption. The bill also provides funding for hotspot and device lending by libraries as an additional means to address the lack of home internet access.
* In late June, House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-S.C.) introduced the [Accessible Affordable Internet for All Act](https://www.majoritywhip.gov/?press=clyburn-rural-broadband-task-force-and-house-democrats-introduce-accessible-affordable-internet-for-all-act) (H.R. 7302), which includes similar grant provisions as H.R. 2 and $5 billion for a hotspot program for libraries and K–12 schools. Subsequently, US Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) led eight of her colleagues in introducing [the companion bill](https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/news-releases?ID=91015466-D580-4709-8817-7AD2C88A6EC3) to H.R. 7302 in early July.

PPA has engaged grassroots advocates in key states to raise awareness of how libraries are providing broadband access during COVID-19.

**ALA helps #LibrariesEngageVoters**

PPA published a [one-page handout](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/Libraries%20Engage%20Voters%20%281%29.pdf) to supplement ALA’s voter engagement guide and assist libraries in talking with community leaders about the many ways that libraries support [voter participation and education](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/voter-engagement). PPA has also coordinated with the Chapter Relations Office and Communications and Marketing Office to share information about how libraries are adjusting to serve voters and support participation in the election during the coronavirus pandemic.

ALA is a premier partner of National Voter Registration Day (NVRD) and PPA authored a [blog post](https://www.nonprofitvote.org/libraries-engage-voters/) for their parent organization, Nonprofit Vote. In July, NVRD and PPA co-hosted [“Ready to Vote: Hosting National Voter Registration Day at Your Library,”](https://ala-events.zoom.us/rec/play/PuxE0BfIsU0AM_c6W97guPTJsY8cWoBUFTwqAWqcjwsRQsfk-sL11FNJ7hqCcDZLQBV37jFgon07wfSB.LNvjHAFWLVmGrf8I?startTime=1595530843000&_x_zm_rtaid=VQJKqV2hSfiqCa_mjYYimw.1600722758499.7a6487bfbf57476fafd5eff78560ed94&_x_zm_rhtaid=993) featuring a school, academic, and state libraries. Through ALA, nearly 500 libraries signed on as NVRD participants in 2020, a 14% increase over 2019.

In partnership with the Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission, PPA coordinated the distribution of 6,000 sets of women’s suffrage books for youth to public, school, academic and special libraries across the country.

COPYRIGHT

**New Register of Copyrights appointed**

Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden [has appointed](http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2020/09/ala-welcomes-new-register-copyrights-shira-perlmutter) Shira Perlmutter as the next Register of Copyrights and director of the U.S. Copyright Office. Perlmutter replaces the Acting Register of Copyright, Maria Strong who will continue at the Office as Associate Register of Copyrights for Policy and International Affairs. Perlmutter has comprehensive knowledge of intellectual property having previously worked at the United States Patent and Trade Office (USPTO) as a chief policy officer and director for international affairs as well in the Copyright Office. She also was a professor at the Catholic University, Columbus School of Law.

Perlmutter led the interagency group that prepared [the Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act](https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2559?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22Marrakesh+Treaty+Implementation+Act%22%5D%7D)and managed the complicated process of getting the legislation to the U.S. Senate. The legislation was passed in 2018 and increased the availability of accessible content for the print disabled as well as implementing cross-border sharing of accessible content.

**Library Copyright Alliance (LCA) requests new exemption**

The LCA has submitted a request to the U.S. Copyright Office for [a new exemption](https://www.librarycopyrightalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/new-DVD-exemption.pdf), preservation of DVDs no longer available in the market, in the [upcoming 1201 proceeding](https://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap12.html) on classes of works. If the exemption is accepted and approved by the Librarian, these works will be exempt from the anti-circumvention provision of the [Digital Millennium Copyright Act](https://www.copyright.gov/legislation/dmca.pdf) (DMCA) for the next three years.

**LCA submits comment on sovereign immunity study**

The U.S. Copyright Office is conducting a [study on copyright law’s sovereign immunity](https://www.copyright.gov/policy/state-sovereign-immunity/) provision for state-run institutions including libraries. The provision provides a waiver of statutory charges if a right holder takes a state-run institution to court for copyright infringement. [LCA argued](https://www.librarycopyrightalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Sovereign-Immunity-Comments.pdf) that state-run libraries have not exploited the liability provision. Rights holders have increased their concern over sovereign immunity in the copyright law since the Supreme Court decision [Allen vs. Cooper](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/19pdf/18-877_dc8f.pdf), which reversed a decision that South Carolina could not be sued for infringement.

**LCA requests mandatory deposit of e-books**

The U.S. Copyright Office also requested comment on whether eBooks should be subject to mandatory deposit in the Library of Congress. [LCA argued in favor of the proposal](https://www.librarycopyrightalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MandatoryDepositNOI_July2020_final.pdf) but also reminded the Copyright Office that access for these works and other digital content should be accessible to the public using a secure digital network. Currently, these digital works are only accessible at one computer in the Library of Congress.

**The CASE Act continues to stall**

Senate negotiations over language in the Copyright Alternative in Small-Claims Enforcement Act [(CASE) of 2019](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1273) have not proven fruitful. The Senate plans to introduce the CASE Act to the full Senate this Congressional session along with legislation to amend [Section 230 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/47/230), which protects online publishers from third party liability. The CASE Act would create a small claims tribunal for copyright holders unable to bring a case to federal court due to time and expense. LCA opposes the legislation while understanding the concern. Concerns include automatic opt-in, higher statutory damages than are typical of a small claims law court, and the unlikelihood that the tribunal would ever be used. Legislation proposed to make streaming a felony has also stalled.

Senator Tom Tillis (R-NC), chair of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on intellectual property, announced his intention to introduce new legislation to update the DMCA by December. The legislation would likely amend Section 512 the takedown to stay down is scheduled for intro in December.

LIBRARY FUNDING

**Federal funding stalls, but support for libraries increases**

Federal appropriations, both COVID-19 emergency funding and regular appropriations, stalled over the summer months, yet ALA worked with Congressional champions to introduce a $2 billion library relief package and secure a $2 million increase for LSTA in the House appropriations bill.

To address the emergency needs of libraries, Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and Rep. Andy Levin (D-MI) introduced companion bills, the [Library Stabilization Fund Act](http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2020/07/ala-summons-support-library-stabilization-fund-act) (LSFA). These bills (S. 4181 in the Senate ant H.R. 7486 in the House) would establish a [$2 billion fund](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/LSFA_Summary_Final.pdf) for library stabilization, with $1.7 billion to be immediately distributed to states. An additional $45 million would be available for tribal libraries, and $200 million would go to competitive grants related to COVID-19. [ALA has worked](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/library-funding) over the past few months to secure 62 cosponsors to the House bill and 16 to the Senate. ALA also secured the endorsement of 23 national organizations. Senator Reed [praised the efforts of libraries](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/Senator%20Reed%20Floor%20Statement%20on%20LSFA%20Introduction.pdf) on the Senate Floor while Rep. Andy Levin highlighted the support of ALA in his [press release](https://andylevin.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-levin-sen-reed-introduce-legislation-provide-stabilization-funding).

Related to these efforts, ALA worked with various advocates to set up a series of virtual meetings with House and Senate leaders to press for the LSFA. Senate meetings included: Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Appropriations Committee Chair Richard Shelby (R-AL), Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Roy Blunt (R-MO), Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Patty Murray  (D-WA), as well as other offices in the Senate and House.

The full House passed 10 of 12 regular Appropriations bills in July, including the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) bill, which rejected the Administration’s recommendation to eliminate the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL). As previously reported, ALA submitted comments in support of these programs, secured a record number of signatures on the annual Dear Appropriator Letters, and met with committee staff. Following the [urging of ALA](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/House%20LHHS%20Letter.pdf), the House included a $2 million increase for LSTA Grants to States (increased to $168.8 million) and level funding for IAL. The Senate is not expected to pass any of the 12 appropriations bills, preferring to negotiate on a final package directly with the House and Administration. To avert a government shutdown, the House and Senate approved a temporary funding measure (called a Continuing Resolution) through mid-December.

RECENT ACTIVITY RELATED TO PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY:

* June 1: [2-Pager](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/telecom/broadband/ALA%20COVID%20Two%20Pager%20FINAL_05212020.pdf) for libraries: Libraries Respond to COVID-19
* June 2: [Comments](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/Sign-ons/FOIA%20fee%20guidelines%20-%20libraries%202020-06-02.pdf) to the Office of Management and Budget on Revisions to Uniform Freedom of Information Act Fee Schedule and Guidelines
* June 22: [Coalition](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/Sign-ons/Strengthening_the_Legislative_Branch_by_Increasing_its_302b_Allocation_2020-06-22.pdf) letter to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees regarding the allocation for the Legislative Branch Subcommittee
* June 22: [Coalition](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/Sign-ons/census-project-letter-re-census-funding-in-senate-covid-package-6-22-20-4.pdf) letter to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science regarding supplemental funding for the Census Bureau
* June 22: [ALA tip sheet](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/CensusTips08_Covid-19_web_061920.pdf): "Libraries and the 2020 Census: Adapting Outreach in Response to COVID-19"
* June 25: [Letter](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/Preparing%20for%20the%20Next%20Pandemic%20-%20Am%20Library%20Assn.pdf) to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions regarding pandemic preparedness
* June 29: [Letter](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/LSTA%20FY21%20ALA%20Letter.docx) to House Appropriations Committee calling for increases to LSTA and IAL programs
* June 30: [Letter](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/HR%202%20-%20Am%20Library%20Assn%20%28005%29.pdf) to House Leadership supporting library provisions in Moving Forward Act
* July 1: [Letter](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/House%20LHHS%20Letter.pdf) to House Appropriations Subcommittee urging library funding increase
* July 1: [ALA summary](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/LSFA_Summary_Final.pdf) of Library Stabilization Fund Act
* July 2:[1-Pager](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/07022020%20CIPA%20and%20IMLS%20CARES%20Act%20Funds%20-%20FINAL.pdf) on CIPA compliance when using IMLS funding from the CARES Act
* July 5: [Template](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/CARES_PRTemplate_Local.docx) press release and social media posts for libraries to announce CARES Act award from State Libraries
* July 13: [Coalition](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/Sign-ons/nonprofit-community-letter-7-13-2020.pdf) letter to Congressional leaders regarding COVID-19 relief for nonprofit organizations
* July 15: [2-Pager](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/telecom/broadband/ALA_COVID_hotspot_2pager_07072020.pdf) for libraries: Libraries Respond to COVID-19 - Community Recovery, Library Hotspots
* September: [ALA Policy Perspectives](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/tools/Libraries%26Reentry_WEB_090620%20%282%29.pdf): Libraries and Reentry: The Importance of Public Spaces, Technologies, and Community to Formerly Incarcerated Patrons
* September 18: [ALA Policy Perspectives](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/telecom/erate/Built_by_E-Rate_WEB_090420.pdf): Built by E-Rate: A Case Study of Two Tribally-Owned Fiber Networks and the Role of Libraries in Making it Happen
* September 17: [Comments](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/telecom/broadband/ALA%20Mapping%20Reply%20Comments%2009172020.pdf) to the FCC regarding broadband mapping