

ALA American Library Association

September 22, 2015

Shaun Donovan, Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Re: Plan for Ongoing Access to Electronic Information During Government Shutdown

Dear Director Donovan:

On January 28, 2014, the Council of the American Library Association formally adopted the attached Resolution, which we previously shared with your office. It calls upon OMB to make clear to all federal agencies that access by the public to essential information on agency websites is an "excepted" activity warranting the retention of paid personnel or the obligation of funds to assure ongoing access.

I am writing today to reiterate that request and to underscore the importance of continued access to government information in the event of a federal government shutdown on October 1. This concern is born from experience during the 2013 government shutdown when some federal websites became inaccessible, while others continued to function to varying degrees of their full capacities.

Express guidance from your agency issued in the remaining days of September would be greatly appreciated. ALA would be pleased, of course, to assist in its creation or dissemination.

Sincerely,



Emily Sheketoff, Executive Director
Washington Office

Resolved