

Manitowoc Public Library Board of Trustees
Resolution Opposing Elimination of Federal Funding for the
Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

WHEREAS, the 382 Wisconsin public libraries are valuable contributors to the state's economy, the return on investment in library services is \$4.06 for each dollar of taxpayer investment; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin public libraries serve a total state population of over 5.6 million people and the use of public libraries by citizens of the state is growing; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) provides Wisconsin with just under \$3 million annually to support many services and assist schools and public libraries in meeting the needs of the state's citizens; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Library Agency activities staffing would be cut by 65% affecting services including BadgerLink online database management, Wisconsin Document Depository Program and Digital Archives system management; and

WHEREAS, WISCAT, Wisconsin's interlibrary loan system management would be cut, with the understanding that provision of interlibrary loan service is required by state statute; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 the IMLS funded \$815,450 in LSTA grants to local Wisconsin libraries supporting a wide variety of new services to libraries unable to afford them; and

WHEREAS, examples of IMLS funded LSTA grants directly impacting Manitowoc were the Community Creation Room, Citizenship Information Center and Literacy Needs of Corrections System, installment of hearing loops, and annual support of broadband access; and

WHEREAS, President Trump, in his 2018 Federal Budget document, has proposed eliminating the IMLS; and

WHEREAS, these proposed cuts have drawn vigorous opposition from the American Library Association; and

WHEREAS, the Manitowoc Public Library Board of Trustees shares these concerns, and strenuously opposes elimination of the IMLS; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Manitowoc Public Library Board of Trustees proudly governing library services for the past 117 years in the City of Manitowoc, Wisconsin—does hereby join with other communities from throughout Wisconsin in voicing its opposition to such funding cuts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of President Donald J. Trump, to U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson, and to Congressman Glenn Grothman as evidence of this community's commitment to lifelong learning, and our expectation that the Federal government will remain a strong partner in furtherance of libraries not only in Wisconsin but across this great nation.

Approved this 26th Day of June, 2017

<hr/>	
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>