

**A RESOLUTION**

by

**THE HARPER WOODS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

At a regular meeting of the Harper Woods Public Library Board of Trustees (the "Library"), held on Thursday August 20, 2009, at 7 p.m. at the Library at 19601 Harper Ave., Harper Woods, MI 48225.

PRESENT: J. Bobak, F. Sosnowski, A. Spraggins, M. VanDeMark, T. Larrew (Chair)

ABSENT: None

By a motion from T. Larrew, supported by M. VanDeMark, and passed by a unanimous vote, the board of trustees authorized the director, in consultation with the board chairperson, to draft the following preamble and resolution and to distribute it to key legislators in the State of Michigan:



CERTIFICATION

I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Harper Woods Public Library Board and I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the motion adopted by the Library Board of the Harper Woods Public Library, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on August 20, 2009, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least 18 hours prior to the time set for said meeting.

Dated: August 27, 2009

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Dale Parus, Secretary to the Board of Trustees,  
Harper Woods Public Library



WHEREAS Michigan's libraries are vital resources for Michigan residents to seek jobs, write resumes, file for unemployment and link to other State resources via the Internet; and

WHEREAS State of Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's Executive Order No. 2009-36 ("the Order") fails to recognize that statewide library services coordinated by the Library of Michigan saves taxpayers \$72 million through the cooperative sharing of innovative programs such as MeLibrary online subscriptions, MeLCat statewide interlibrary loan and MeL Tests and Tutorials for job seekers; and

WHEREAS the State Aid to Public Libraries Act 89 of 1977 requires that libraries shall receive a total of \$1.50 per capita (about \$15.4 million) – but are currently receiving 96¢ per capita (about \$10 million) - and the Senate-passed budget cuts library funding to \$7.5 million or less than half of what is statutorily required by state law; and

WHEREAS State aid to libraries serves as the maintenance of effort requirement by the federal government to sustain federal funding for the MeLibrary, MeLCat and MeL Tests and Tutorials and the Senate budget threatens the entire statewide interlibrary loan and resource sharing system; and

WHEREAS the Order calls for the scattering of the Library of Michigan collection without providing for its direct access to citizens, eliminates the Library of Michigan building from the department's control without any real cost savings and threatens the position, influence and stature of the State Librarian to coordinate the above money-saving and innovative programs; and

WHEREAS the Order creates a vague new entity called the *Michigan Center for Innovation and Reinvention Board* and charges it to 'preserve and maximize the benefits to the public of existing state library and historical resources including collections, buildings and skilled personnel' but provides no budget or any library representation on it; and

WHEREAS it is essential for the well-being of the citizens of the State of Michigan that libraries thrive in order to promote a knowledge-based economy, retain a literate society and remain on the cutting edge of technology; and,

WHEREAS sixty-four percent of Michigan libraries report that they are the only source of no-charge Internet access in their communities and are providing a vital link to citizens to State job and workforce training information for those unable to afford it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Harper Woods Public Library Board, acting as advocates of the people of the State of Michigan and in support of resources that ensure a high quality of life for all, strongly urges the Michigan Legislature to:

- **Support all legislative efforts to maintain library services and to keep their functions whole under the *Library of Michigan* and within the State government;**

- **Maintain State aid to libraries at \$10 million in order to retain the federal funding required to sustain the MeLibrary online research resources, the MeLCat interlibrary loan and the MeL Tests and Tutorials;**
- **Retain the position of and respect the role of the State Librarian.**

Adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

