**ACRL Government Relations Committee**

Meeting Notes

8/19/2022

* Introductions
  + Each member introduced themselves
* Review of Work Plan
  + The Year End Report for this most recent service cycle, as well as the Work Plan for this cycle was discussed.
  + These documents have been posted to ALA Connect
* Discussion of Current ACRL Legislative Agenda
  + The 2022 ACRL Legislative Agenda was discussed
    - A recommendation was forwarded from the ACRL community that anti-CRT (critical race theory) legislation be added as a topic to the agenda.
      * The committee agreed that this was a topic of import for academic libraries
  + The chair led the committee in a review of each section
    - Federal Funding for Libraries – this topic is likely to retain its importance for the coming year
    - Net Neutrality – this topic has remained of importance for several years and will likely persist on the 2023 Legislative Agenda, as progress in Congress stalled on this issue in 2022.
    - Affordable College Textbook Act – this legislation was introduced during the 117th Congress, but then stalled. This topic is still of import, so it should remain on the Legislative Agenda for the coming year. However, it may be appropriate to move this to the “watch list.”
    - Consumer Data Privacy – legislation has stalled, but remains relevant.
    - Public Access to Research – this topic remains very important for academic libraries. The White House memo that was recently released, regarding new data access standards for federally-funded research provides this topic with additional momentum moving forward.
    - AIM High Act – This item should move to the “watch list,” as there is no pending legislation and this topic seems to be stalled in Congress.
    - Federal Funding for Higher Ed – This section is mostly about pandemic-related funding, which is less likely moving forward. However, record inflation will likely still affect libraries. So this may need to remain on the agenda, even if it’s dropped to the “watch list.”
    - Environmental Impact of Data Centers – This topic remains of importance, though there is no legislation currently pending.
* Establish Work Assignments for Next Meeting
  + Committee members volunteered to investigate current state of topics listed on last year’s legislative agenda.
    - Natalie Marquez – Anti-CRT legislation (new) and Federal Funding for Libraries (#1)
    - H Pedelty – Net Neutrality (#2)
    - Kaitlyn Tanis – Affordable College Textbook Act (#3) and Federal Funding for Higher Ed (#7)
    - Dan DeSanto – Public Access to Research (#5)
    - Kevin Walker – Environmental Impact of Data Centers (#8)
    - Hallie Pritchett – FDLP Modernization Act (watch list)