**Memorial Resolution Honoring Bernard Margolis**

**WHEREAS**, Bernard Margolis distinguished himself in his service as the Director/CEO of Pikes Peak Library District in Colorado, President of the Boston Public Library, New York State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries at the New York State Library; and  
  
**WHEREAS**, Bernard Margolis was a graduate of University of Denver, receiving a Bachelor's degree in political science and a Master's in librarianship;

**WHEREAS**, he joined the American Library Association (ALA) early in his career, as a member Council from 1985-2016, serving as a member and chair of the Resolution Committee and an Endowment Trustee;

**WHEREAS,** he was remembered for debating the issues by being insightful, concise, unabashed and fair in a manner that included humor and heart;  
  
**WHEREAS**, he was recognized for his innovation, vision, steady and reliable leadership, and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, he was a fierce advocate for public libraries and their  mission to provide unfettered access to information to their communities, including  expanding access to programs, advocating for the freedom of expression, increased open hours; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernard Margolis advocated for increased support of public libraries, which resulted in state funding for public library construction growing from $14 million to $34 million a year during his tenure in New York and preserving and restoring the historic Central branch in Boston; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernard Margolis championed library services for the  youngest citizens, hiring a children’s librarian in every Boston Public Library branch, creating a nationally recognized Homework Assistance and online tutoring program and growing participation in *Summer Reading at New York’s Libraries* to 2.2 million readers in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernard Margolis, as the steward of historical significant artifacts and documents oversaw the operations of the library of President John Adams, Shakespeare's first folio, Lincoln’s first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation and Gutenberg's Catholicon among many other unique and rare materials and expanded the New York State Research Library’s treasures by acquiring important new collections such as the Harry Rosenfeld Collection and the Dutch Genealogical Book Collection from the Holland Society of New York; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernard Margolis has been a trusted colleague, cherished friend and mentor to so many in the library community and beyond who learned their principles and commitment from his example; therefore be it   
  
  
*Resolved*, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members,

1. recognizes the many important contributions of Bernard Margolis to the library community; and be it further
2. extends its sincere sympathy to the family of Bernard Margolis and expresses the high esteem in which we hold his life and his memory.

Mover: Jennifer Ferriss, New York State Chapter Councilor

Seconder: Lauren Comito, ALA Councilor, Member-At-Large