

## MEMORANDUM

Date: February 13, 2025

To: ALA Executive Board  
ALA Division Presidents  
ALA Council Committee Chairs  
ALA Round Table Chairs

From: Ray James, chair, ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee

Subject: Proposed Revisions to Interpretations of the *Library Bill of Rights*

As previously shared last fall, the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) has been reviewing and updating ALA's intellectual policies, including the Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights in anticipation of a new edition (11<sup>th</sup>) of the Intellectual Freedom Manual.

Working groups have reviewed and revised a number of interpretations, and the IFC is asking for your feedback on the following four proposed drafts. The IFC greatly appreciates the contribution of time and thought that you and your members will bring to this important process. Below, you will find the current version of the Interpretation and the proposed revision of that interpretation. Please submit feedback on these Interpretations via the following feedback forms linked after this section.

### Draft Interpretations

- “Labeling and Rating Systems” (Note: Now combines two Interpretations into one)
  - a. Current Interpretations
    - i. [Labeling Systems](#)
    - ii. [Rating Systems](#)
  - b. [Draft Interpretation](#) for review and feedback
- “Access to Resources and Services in the School Library”
  - a. [Current Interpretation](#)
  - b. [Draft Interpretation](#) for review and feedback
- “Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors”
  - a. [Current Interpretation](#)
  - b. [Draft Interpretation](#) for review and feedback
- “Diverse and Inclusive Collections” (Note: The draft Interpretation has a new title. Old title was “Diverse Collections”)
  - a. [Current Interpretation](#)
  - b. [Draft Interpretation](#) for review and feedback
- Policy on Governmental Intimidation

- a. [Current Interpretation](#)
- b. [Draft Interpretation](#) for review and feedback

### Feedback Forms:

- “Labeling and Rating Systems” [Feedback Form](#) - <https://bit.ly/LabelingRating>
- “Access to Resources and Services in the School Library” [Feedback Form](#) - <https://bit.ly/ARSSLInterpretation>
- “Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors” [Feedback Form](#) - <https://bit.ly/AccessMinors>
- “Diverse and Inclusive Collections” [Feedback Form](#) - <https://bit.ly/DICInterpretation>
- “Policy on Governmental Intimidation” [Feedback Form](#) - <https://bit.ly/PolicyGovIntim>

The IFC plans to present these Interpretations to ALA Council for adoption as soon as possible. The committee, therefore, would appreciate receiving any feedback prior to **March 5, 2025**. The Committee will rely on your feedback in preparing the final drafts for submission to ALA Council for final approval. The IFC anticipates routing additional revised Interpretations, in batches, to ALA members over the next several months.

Please feel free to share this message widely. The committee appreciates feedback from your leadership and your members, and also welcomes comments from individual members.

Thank you in advance for your time and suggestions. Please don't hesitate to contact me ([erayjames@gmail.com](mailto:erayjames@gmail.com)) or OIF Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone ([dstone@ala.org](mailto:dstone@ala.org)) if you have any questions.

Ray James, Chair  
Intellectual Freedom Committee