

Recommendations & Commendations  
of the Depository Library Council  
to the GPO Director & GPO Responses,  
Spring 2020



FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY PROGRAM

<http://www.fdlp.gov>

## **INTRODUCTION**

This document presents the recommendations & commendations of the Depository Library Council from the spring 2020 Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's responses. (June 2020)

## RECOMMENDATIONS & COMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL TO THE GPO DIRECTOR & GPO RESPONSES, SPRING 2020

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### COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION 1

Council recommends that GPO work with the Council's Digital Deposit Working Group to implement the Digital Deposit pilot to explore a full ecosystem approach to reporting lost documents to GPO, as outlined in the document, "Digital Deposit Working Group report to the Depository Library Council Proposed Pilot."

### GPO'S RESPONSE

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) will work with Council's Digital Deposit Working Group to implement the pilot as outlined and presented to DLC in "[Digital Deposit Working Group report to the Depository Library Council Proposed Pilot](#)." GPO shares the Working Group's commitment to implementing a Pilot Project with the goal of modeling, testing, and researching ways in which Federal depository libraries discover fugitive documents, can be enabled to successfully submit or report them to GPO for ingest into **govinfo**, and then allow for FDLP libraries to locally store, if they so choose, as a full ecosystem approach to digital deposit of online publications.

GPO appreciates the Working Group's use of the list of publications enumerated in the [House Document 116-4 – Reports to be made to Congress](#) as the set of content to be used in this pilot. Limiting the scope of the project to this list of reports allows for an opportunity to better document the potential impact of passage of [H.R. 736: Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act](#) and develop a consistent method of collecting information on the process of fugitive discovery. GPO looks forward to continued collaboration with the Working Group on this pilot, and to the Working Group presenting its findings in spring 2021.

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### COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION 2

Council recommends that GPO convene a meeting this summer that includes a panel to discuss library reopening planning, and an open forum to allow attendees an opportunity to share what is happening in their libraries. One aspect of the discussion should be what permanent changes may take place in libraries as a result of experience gained from operating in an all or mostly virtual environment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### GPO'S RESPONSE

GPO fully-supports the idea of a collaborative webinar with the FDLP community that includes an Open Forum to discuss library reopening plans, how libraries are navigating reopening procedures, and any permanent changes in operations. This webinar, *Planning for Reopening: FDLP Libraries recovering from the COVID-19 Pandemic*, is planned for Monday, July 27, 2020. Because this topic is so complex, GPO staff are planning a second webinar to address this topic. In this webinar, GPO plans to convene a panel of participants who will share their situation and experiences. These panelists will discuss factors that went into deciding when to open the library, concerns about re-closures, concerns and mitigation for handling library materials and the transfer of the virus, telework projects involving Government documents, and more.

GPO appreciated the rich discussion that took place during the Open Forum of the spring 2020 DLC Virtual Meeting, *Depository Libraries in a Time of Stay-at-Home Orders*. A great deal of valuable discussion and insight was shared, and GPO staff feel that continuing this discussion as we enter new phases of this pandemic would be increasingly valuable to the FDLP community.

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## **COUNCIL COMMENDATION**

The Depository Library Council (DLC) commends the staff of the U.S. Government Publishing Office, the Superintendent of Documents, and the staff of Library Services and Content Management for their timely responses to an unprecedented number of disasters effecting Federal Depository Libraries during the past three years. GPO has responded with compassion, concern, and expert advice to hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes, and COVID-19.

In each instance, GPO has reached out to the individual libraries involved to offer help and guidance. GPO has also provided written guidance and protocols for each specific disaster situation. In particular, the rapid development and provision of the COVID-19 Toolkit for Federal depository libraries offers valuable advice to libraries in an uncertain situation. DLC thanks GPO for their continued efforts to support Federal Depository Libraries in these difficult situations.

## **GPO'S RESPONSE**

GPO thanks the DLC for their kind commendation. The staff at GPO takes our role in supporting nationwide Federal depository libraries very seriously, both during normal operations and during disasters and crises. We are proud to be able to provide guidance, support, consultation, resources, tools, and advice.