



January 6, 2009

The Honorable Robert A. Brady
Chairman
Joint Committee on Printing
1309 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am transmitting herewith the Final Report to the Joint Committee on Printing, "Regional Depository Libraries in the 21st Century: A Preliminary Assessment," as requested by the Committee in its letter of February 27, 2008; this final report supplants the draft submitted to the Committee in June 2008.

The report recommends that the Committee:

- Support continued appropriations for GPO's initiative to create machine-readable bibliographic records for the tangible collection of pre-1976 depository publications to ensure its completion in a timelier manner;
- Undertake a more in-depth look at the organizational, financial, and technological issues affecting the [Federal Depository Library Program] in its entirety, regionals and selectives alike, and analyze the results to develop recommendations for policy and/or statutory revision that will provide for effective operation of the FDLP in the 21st century; and
- Continue to support GPO's initiatives to authenticate the Government's digital information dissemination products.

GPO looks forward to continuing to work with the Committee on this important matter.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. TAPELLA
Public Printer

Enclosure