

January 27, 2022

Mr. Will Stringfellow, Chair  
Depository Library Council  
Jean and Alexander Heard Library  
Vanderbilt University  
419 21st Ave S  
Nashville, TN 37212

Dear Mr. Stringfellow:

This letter is in response to your December 10, 2021 transmittal of the Depository Library Council's request for approval for the creation of a working group to explore the needs and possible solutions related to Federal depository libraries that have unique challenges or serve primarily underserved populations.

I support this endeavor, and pursuant to authority vested in me by the Charter of the Depository Library Council, I am hereby establishing the Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group ("Working Group"). In addition to Council members serving on the Working Group, I have asked Superintendent Laurie Hall to assign appropriate staff from Library Services and Content Management to serve on the Working Group.

The Working Group will study Federal depository libraries at affinity-focused institutions and other FDLs with unique needs and challenges that impact their ability to provide access to tangible and digital depository resources. The Working Group should also determine possible solutions and provide recommendations that include ways in which the Government Publishing Office can better support these libraries.

The Working Group should deliver a report to me on these matters by March 31, 2023. Until then, I look forward to progress reports to be given at the Council's spring and fall meetings.

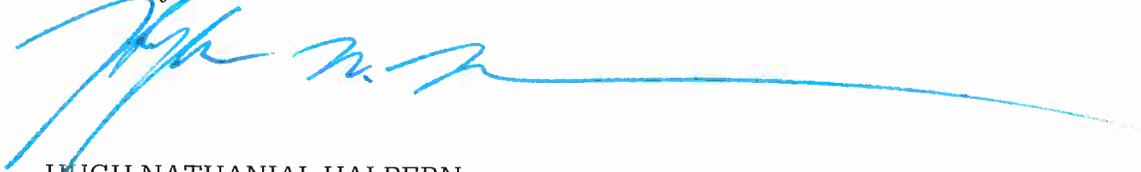
The final report, and any recommendations stemming from it, are part of the permanent record of the GPO's work. They will be published on FDLP.gov for the FDLP community and the general public to access.

Mr. Stringfellow, Chair

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I thank the Council for its continued dedication to the missions of the Federal Depository Library Program and the GPO. And I thank you for your guidance. Should you have any questions about the Working Group, please contact Superintendent Laurie Hall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hugh Nathaniel Halpern", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

HUGH NATHANIAL HALPERN