March 2, 2005

The Honorable Lamar Smith, Chairman
Subcommittee on the Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property
Committee on Judiciary
B-351A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-5741

Dear Chairman Smith:

We write to express our support for the Family and Entertainment Copyright Act of 2005, S. 167. Title III’s reauthorization of the National Film Preservation Board and the National Film Preservation Foundation will help ensure the preservation of our national film heritage. Title IV will assist libraries to engage in preservation, scholarship and research of musical works, motion pictures, and other audiovisual works during the last 20 years of their copyright term. Title II reflects a careful balancing of the interests of copyright owners, consumers, and technology companies to enable consumers to skip over offensive material in entertainment content. Finally, we appreciate the amendments made to Title I to address concerns raised by libraries and educational institutions concerning the breadth of the legislation when it was first introduced in the last Congress.

We look forward to working with you and your staff on this and other copyright and intellectual property legislation. Please let us know if there is additional information that we can provide.

Sincerely,

Robert Oakley
American Association of Law Libraries

Miriam Nisbet
American Library Association

Prudence S. Adler
Association of Research Libraries

Carla Funk
Medical Library Association

Doug Newcomb
Special Libraries Association