



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL LIBRARY GROUPS URGE SENATE TO “REJECT” BILL
TO MAKE REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS A PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEE**

Earlier today the House of Representatives adopted the “Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017” (H.R. 1695) to make the position of the Register of Copyrights subject to Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation. Under current law (17 USC 701), the Librarian of Congress selects the Register.

The Library Copyright Alliance, a group of national library organizations collectively representing more than 120,000 libraries in the United States and serving an estimated 200 million patrons annually, released the following statement in response:

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The Library Copyright Alliance is disappointed that the House today passed H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act. We continue to believe that the bill will delay critically needed modernization of the Copyright Office and make the Register of Copyrights less accountable to Congress and the public, contrary to the stated intent of the bill made plain in its title. We look forward to working with the Senate on this legislation.

The Library Copyright Alliance consists of the American Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, and the Association of Research Libraries.