



March 2, 2026

Angela Bonnell
Chair, Depository Library Council
Head of Government Information and Maps
Milner Library, Illinois State University
abonne@ilstu.edu

Dear Ms. Bonnell:

This letter is in response to the Depository Library Council's (DLC) December 5, 2025 transmittal of the DLC recommendations resulting from the Fall 2025 Depository Library Council Meeting.

Outreach by depository librarians engages them with the diverse communities they serve and helps bridge gaps in access to government information. Training and continuing education help make government information librarians better facilitators of learning. GPO wholeheartedly encourages these efforts and will do what we can to support them. I instructed the Superintendent of Documents to implement these two DLC recommendations.

The DLC's recommendations and GPO's responses, attached, are part of the permanent record of GPO's work. They will be published on FDLP.gov for the FDLP community and the public to access.

Should you have any questions about GPO's response to your recommendations, please contact Superintendent Matheson.

Thank you, Ms. Bonnell, and to all the members of the DLC, for your continued commitment to the FDLP and to furthering GPO's vision of an America Informed.

Sincerely,

HUGH NATHANIAL HALPERN

Attachment
cc: Depository Library Council Members
Superintendent of Documents

GPO RESPONSES TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL FALL 2025 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1: Develop print-on-demand services

The Council recognizes that many users of Government information continue to experience challenges related to the digital divide. It recommends that GPO consider developing print-on-demand services for FDLs, enabling them to provide Government information to users who cannot access digital documents or reside far from a Federal Depository Library. The Council further recommends that the GPO consider ways to support interlibrary loan services to ensure the availability of printed documents to underserved populations.

GPO Response

GPO thanks Council for addressing the needs of those who are caught in the digital divide. It has been a few years since GPO last investigated the feasibility of providing print on demand. While GPO continues to invest in equipment that can support low-volume printing, the binding process continues to be a hurdle for truly economical print on demand. GPO is continuing to evaluate technical solutions as it purchases equipment, with the hope of delivering this capability at a cost-effective level in the future.

GPO understands that there are a number of interlibrary loan (ILL) networks in existence. Additionally, there are library consortia with active interlibrary loan services. ILL is a topic for discussion in the National Collection Service Area Steering Committees as they develop their comprehensive collection development and management plans. GPO plans to include holdings information for some collections in the Catalog of Government Publications. This will simplify identifying ILL lending libraries.

Recommendation 2: Increase outreach with a public-facing toolkit

In a digital-first environment, Government information is accessed both within and outside of FDLs. To increase outreach and awareness to underserved populations who may not visit FDLs, the Council recommends the GPO develop a communications toolkit for Government information in all formats that FDLs and the general public can utilize. The toolkit should include promotional content suitable for social media and online use, as well as the tangible materials currently available.

GPO Response

While FDLP promotional materials are available, creating a communications tool kit for online use, and particularly for social media, is an excellent idea. Our promotional efforts should be wherever the users are. We will begin this effort by reviewing the responses to Question 17 from the 2025 Biennial Survey: “Please rank the FDLP promotional services that your library is most interested in.”

Recommendation 3: Establish a training portal

To increase the visibility and accessibility of all training materials available on the FDLP website, the Council recommends that GPO establish a training portal to provide a single-entry point for all of its training resources, including FDLP Academy presentations, conference proceedings, and Library Resource Guides.

GPO Response

GPO recognizes that FDLP.gov has many locations where different types of training reside. This year, Federal Depository Support Services will work with Web Content to develop a webpage that will provide a listing of the various types of training materials, including FDLP Academy webinars, webcasts, videos, Library Resource Guides, programs from conferences, and other training resources. A longer-term project is underway to enhance the FDLP Academy, including its web presence.