

Ms. Judy Russell  
Superintendent of Documents/Managing Director, Information Dissemination  
U.S. Government Printing Office  
732 North Capitol Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20401

Dear Ms Russell:

On behalf of **the Ad-Hoc Committee to Define Criteria for Disposal Prior to a 5-year Retention** I am most pleased to transmit to you today our findings and recommendations. The Committee believes that this report provides the Government Printing Office (GPO) and the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) with a variety of solutions, including alternatives to the proposed statutory change GPO seeks. At the same time, the Committee recognizes the effort GPO has devoted in its pursuit of statutory language changes in **44 USC 1911-1912**. While the Committee believes that administrative changes are the best approach to a solution, we acknowledge that GPO may wish to continue to pursue statutory change when and where appropriate.

The Committee believes that the recommendations made as alternatives to statutory language changes are sound, viable, and are within the general guidelines currently used to assist selective depository libraries in retention and disposal matters. The Committee also believes that these alternatives involve Regional libraries to the fullest extent possible.

The Committee also recognizes that the GPO is quickly moving towards an electronic FDLP collection. As this collection continues to grow and the tangible equivalent continues to shrink, the Committee believes that many of today's problems will be moot within a very short time frame.

The Committee has worked extremely hard and has worked many hours on developing this report. We hope this report will meet with your approval and that our recommendations will be made available to the depository community.

On behalf of the Committee I want to thank you for convening this group and providing us ample time to work. We very much appreciate your support and look forward to responding to any questions you may have.

With warm regards,

Daniel C. Barkley, Chair