



November 26, 2018

The Honorable Roy Blunt, Chair, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Klobuchar,

The American Library Association, the Association of Research Libraries, the American Association of Law Libraries and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies write in support of the nomination of Robert C. Tapella as the next Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO). GPO will benefit from experienced permanent leadership at the top of the agency and we strongly urge you to support his confirmation.

Our organizations have most recently worked productively with Mr. Tapella in his role as professional oversight staff of the House Committee on House Administration. During the Committee's review of Title 44 of the U.S. Code, Mr. Tapella went to great lengths to engage us as stakeholders, including spending many hours considering our views on GPO's Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). We found him to be deeply knowledgeable about GPO and willing to consider different perspectives in solving problems. Mr. Tapella, as a former Public Printer, has extensive knowledge about the agency and the need for it to actively adapt to new models to achieve sustainability going forward.

Mr. Tapella brings to GPO an eye to modernizing the agency, which began operations more than 150 years ago. We believe that GPO will continue to play an important role in a 21st century government and that modernization can improve the public's permanent public access to government information. Our organizations are especially interested in a strong future for the FDLP, which provides essential information to America's businesses, legal system, researchers, and the general public, by helping them access federal laws, regulations, and other publications.

We look forward to working with the Committee on Rules and Administration on bringing Mr. Tapella's nomination to a successful conclusion.

Sincerely,

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Associate Executive Director
American Library Association

Prudence S. Adler
Associate Executive Director
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