



## MEMO

**To:** Montana State Library Commission  
**From:** Jennie Stapp, State Librarian  
**Subject:** American Library Association membership motion review  
**Date:** August 1, 2025

At the June business meeting the Commission asked to review the motion made to withdraw from the American Library Association (ALA) as it pertains to the relationship between State Library and the Montana Library Association.

Meeting details: [Events - Detail](#)

[\(00:03:16\)](#) – Motion for withdrawal from ALA

Motion by Commissioner Tom Burnett to immediately withdraw from the American Library Association and discontinue any further payments except for existing contracts to it or its subsidiaries. The body of the letter to the ALA is as follows:

Dear Executive Board and Officers,

The purpose of this letter is to announce the Montana State Library's immediate separation from the ALA. Our oath of office and resulting duty to the Constitution forbids association with an organization led by a Marxist.

Sincerely, MSL Commission

[\(01:12:45\)](#) – Vote on the motion to withdraw from the ALA

Emily Drabinski was the President of ALA at the time of this decision. Her term as ALA president was from July 2023 to June 2024.

The relationship with MLA was not discussed during the meeting.