# Template Resolution Against Book Bans

**WHEREAS,** reading is a foundational skill, critical to future learning and to exercising our democratic freedoms; and

**WHEREAS,** libraries provide access to books that offer teachable moments for readers of all ages and expand our understanding of people with different backgrounds, ideas, and beliefs; and

**WHEREAS**, books are tools for understanding complex issues; and

**WHEREAS**, limiting young people’s access to books does not protect them from life’s complex and challenging issues; and

**WHEREAS**, young people deserve to see themselves reflected in a library’s collection; and

**WHEREAS**, librarians are professionals trained to not impose their own thoughts and opinions on which ideas are right, but to make knowledge and ideas available so that people have the freedom to choose what to read; and

**WHEREAS**, removing and banning books from public libraries or public schools is a slippery slope to government censorship and the erosion of our country’s commitment to freedom of expression; and

**WHEREAS**, a large majority of Americans across the political spectrum oppose book bans; and

**WHEREAS**, librarians are professionals trained to not impose their own thoughts and opinions on which ideas are right, but to make knowledge and ideas available so that people have the freedom to choose what to read;

**WHEREAS**, book bans harm communities; then

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the [members] of this [organization/governing body] endorse the following statement:

Individuals should be trusted to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. Further, parents should not be making decisions for other parents’ children about what they read.

We are united against book bans.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we as [organization/governing body] will act to protect the rights of [all students/everyone] to access a variety of books, in schools, in libraries, in bookstores, online, and elsewhere.