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Government Relations Committee Annual Report, 1998-1999

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Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries
Government Relations Committee Annual Committee Report, 1998-1999

The 1998-1999 Government Relations Committee consisted of Kelly Browne (chair), Melanie Dunshee, Rebekah Maxwell, Madison Moseley, Jr., Catherine Lemann, and Brian Huddleston. The Committee continued to monitor and review legislative, judicial and administrative developments in states within the Southeastern Chapter. Committee members monitored developments on such topics as universal citation reforms, internet access bills, public records laws, access to court information, vendor contracts for publication of state documents, and internet filtering in their own and at least one other state.

Committee members also acted as liaisons to the six AALL Chapters that fall within SEALL's geographic boundaries. The Committee members and their state and Chapter liaison assignments were as follows:

**Kelly Browne**
Home State: Tennessee
Assigned States: Kentucky, West Virginia

**Melanie Dunshee**
Home State: North Carolina
Assigned State: Georgia
Chapter Liaison: Joe Morris, Atlanta Law Libraries Assoc. (ALLA) GRC chair

**Rebekah Maxwell**
Home State: South Carolina
Assigned State: Virginia
Chapter Liaison: Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) GRC Chair

**Madison Moseley, Jr.**
Home State: Florida
Assigned State: Puerto Rico
Chapter Liaison: South Florida Association of Law Libraries Chapter President (SFALL)

**Catherine Lemann**
Home State: Louisiana
Assigned State: Alabama
Chapter Liaison: New Orleans Association of Law Libraries (NOALL) GRC Chair; Law Library Association of Alabama (LLAA) GRC Chair Brenda Jones

**Brian Huddleston**
Home State: Mississippi
Assigned State: District of Columbia
Chapter Liaison: Law Librarian's Society of the District of Columbia
Specifically, this past year the Committee:

1) Contacted general state library organizations to team up with government relations or legislative monitoring committees on their work;

2) Monitored publications and electronic discussion groups to keep informed of activities in assigned states and at the national level;

3) Acted as a resource for other AALL Chapter GRCs, sharing our Government Relations Policy, brochure on effective lobbying techniques, and our general experiences on monitoring and effecting legislation;

4) Wrote a letter supporting S. 2288, the Wendell H. Ford Government Publications Reform Act of 1998, to the senators of eight of the eleven states in the Southeast;

5) Testified before the Tennessee Supreme Court's Technology Commission at a public hearing on uniform citation February 26, 1999;

6) Proposed and will present a program relating to government relations for SEALL's 1999 Annual Meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Browne, Chair