February 25, 2020

The Honorable Ron Wyden United States Senator The Honorable Zoe Lofgren United States Representative

Re: Safeguarding Americans' Private Records Act of 2020 (S 3242 / H.R. 5675)

Dear Senator Wyden and Representative Lofgren,

On behalf of the American Library Association, I write to express our appreciation for your interest in reforming surveillance authorities in the Safeguarding Americans' Private Records Act of 2020, S 3242 and H.R. 5675. We are concerned that the current reach of these

In particular, we appreciate the goal of the legislation in Section 401 to reform National Security Letter authorities. These authorities have previously been used by the U.S. Justice Department see Doe v. Gonzales, 386 F. Supp. 2d 66 (D. Conn. 2005). We support reform of National Security Letter authorities to protect freedom to read from unjustified intrusion.

In addition, we appreciate the goal of greater protection for internet browsing and search history through a warrant requirement as suggested in Section 103 of the bill. Reading, browsing, and similar information-seeking activities in libraries are sensitive First Amendment activities and should not be subject to ready government intrusion.

Thank you for your efforts to

Sncerely,