

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: John Attig, ALA Representative
Subject: Revisions to RDA Chapter 6 to treat “Selections” as a work attribute

ALA thanks the Library of Congress for continuing its work on the instructions on the preferred title for parts of a work. Although ALA originally expressed concerns about treating the preferred title for parts of a work as a work attribute in every case, we acknowledge the decision of the JSC to do so.

Some ALA reviewers continue to express concerns about the consequences of this proposal for existing authorized access points representing expressions. There are many access points for musical expressions that currently end with “Selections”; the elements in these access points will need to be rearranged so that “Selections” precedes any elements such as the language of expression. Although we are optimistic that legacy data in national databases can be readily manipulated by machine, the challenges of pushing those changes into local catalogs are significant. In spite of these concerns, ALA does support the proposal.

ALA supports the retention of the term “Selections” for identifying selected parts of, or excerpts from, a work.

For the record, the following are ALA’s position on the changes in this proposal:

1. **Deletion of 6.12.1.4:** Agree.
2. **Revision of 6.23.2.9.7 (Other Selections from the Bible):** Agree. However, we find it odd that this instructions refers to itself (i.e., 6.23.2.9.7 is listed among the instructions referred to); we think this may have been an oversight.
3. **Revision of 6.23.2.10.3 (Selections from the Talmud):** Agree.
4. **Deletion of 6.25.1.5:** Agree.
5. **Revision of 6.27.2.3 (Two or More Parts), alternative:** Agree.
6. **Revision of 6.28.2.3 (Two or More Parts), alternative:** Agree.
7. **Revision of 6.30.2.2 (Part or Parts of a Sacred Scripture), alternative:** Agree.
8. **Revision of 6.14.2.7.2 (Two or More Parts):** Agree.