

AALL 2009 Day on the Hill

Hot Topics on AALL's Policy and Legislative Agenda

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What Are Today's Goals?

To influence policymakers to reach desired outcomes that promote AALL's legislative agenda, by learning:

- our key policy and legislative issues
- the best advocacy “tips of the trade”
- how to most effectively deliver our message on the Hill

√ Successes in the 110th Congress

- *OPEN Government Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-175)*
- \$1 million & order to EPA to reopen 5 closed libraries by end of FY 2008
- *Charles H.W. Meehan Law Library Improvement and Modernization Act*
- Open Access to NIH Sponsored Research

Your Biggest Challenges

- *David vs. Goliath*
- Friday afternoon Hill meetings
- August recess just around the corner
- Competing with hot ticket items: health care reform, energy, the economy and the environment
- Interesting your members and staff in AALL's key issues

AALL Policy Statement to Obama Administration: *Access Goals*

- Government's responsibility for managing the life cycle of online information, including authentication and preservation
- A public domain citation system for legal information
- Adequate annual funding to the AOUSC for no-fee public access to PACER
- Agency cooperation with the Government Printing Office's Federal Digital System (FDsys)

AALL Policy Statement to Obama Administration: *IP Goals*

- Protection and promotion of fair use
- Balance in free trade agreements and treaties
- Enactment of “Orphan Works” legislation

AALL Policy Statement to Obama Administration: *Privacy Goals*

- The 2009 reauthorization of provisions of the *USA PATRIOT Act*
 - Section 215
 - National Security Letters

Digital Authentication and e-Life Cycle Management

Key Message:

- We need to build allies in Congress who recognize that the lack of authentication and preservation of “born digital” legal information is a serious problem.
- NCCUSL has just approved creating a drafting committee for a uniform state law. A similar solution is needed government-wide at the federal level.

CRS Reports

- Legislation: S. Res. 118
- Committee: Senate Rules and Administration Committee

Key message:

- We believe the public has the right to access these valuable, taxpayer-funded reports.
- Rules Committee Chairman Schumer (D-NY) has not take any action to consider S. Res. 118. Ask your senator to urge Chairman Schumer to take up the resolution in the Committee.

FY 2010 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act

- Legislation: H.R.2918 and S.1294 to provide appropriations for the Law Library of Congress and the Government Printing Office (GPO).
- Committees: House and Senate Appropriations Committees; House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Legislative Branch

FY 2010 Funding for The Law Library of Congress

- Current status: H.R. 2918 and S. 1294 passed the House and Senate and will now go to conference.
- Problem: The Senate bill makes no appropriation for GLIN.

Key message for conferees:

- Urge conferees to approve the full \$2.7 million appropriation for GLIN included in the House bill.

FY 2010 Funding for GPO

- Current status: H.R. 2918 and S. 1294 passed the House and Senate and will now go to conference.
- Problem: The House bill does not provide full funding for FDsys.

Key message for conferees:

- Urge conferees to support the \$7.782 million for FDsys provided for in the Senate bill.

The Law Library of Congress

- Legislation: The *William Orton Law Library Improvement and Modernization Act* (H.R. 2728)
- Committees: Committee on House Administration; Senate Rules and Administration Committee

Key message:

- Ask your House representative to vote in favor of this important bill when it reaches the House floor.
- Ask members of the Senate Rules Committee to introduce a companion bill in the Senate.

National Security Letters

- Legislation: *National Security Letters Reform Act of 2009* (H.R. 1800)
- Committee: House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties

Key message for co-sponsors:

- Thank the co-sponsors and ask what you can do to support this legislation.

Key message for House representatives who are *not* co-sponsors:

- Ask him or her to co-sponsor the bill.

Network Neutrality

- Legislation: None.
- Committees: Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; House Energy and Commerce Committee

Key message:

- Ask members of both committees to introduce a Net Neutrality bill before the August recess and urge them to sign on as co-sponsors.

USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorization: Section 215

- Legislation in the 111th Congress: None.
- Committees: House and Senate Judiciary Committees

Key message:

- If repeal of Section 215 is not be possible, we urge Congress to include requirements in the reauthorization that return to the pre-*PATRIOT Act* standard.

PACER

- Legislation: None.
- Committees: Senate HSGAC; Senate Rules and Administration Committee; Senate Judiciary Committee; Senate Appropriations Committee

Key message:

- Thank Chairman Joseph Lieberman (ID-CT) for his commitment to ensuring no-fee public access to PACER.
- Ask Judiciary and Appropriations Committee members to support no-fee access to PACER.
- Urge Rules Committee members to put pressure on the AO to resume the PACER pilot project.

Whistleblower Protections

- Legislation: *Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2009* (H.R. 1507 and S. 372)
- Key Committees: House Oversight and Government Reform Committee; Senate HSGA Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia

Key message for Senate co-sponsors and members of the Subcommittee:

- Ask your senators to support jury trials and full coverage of national security employees, as included in the House bill.

Key message for House co-sponsors and members of the Committee:

- Thank co-sponsors and ask Committee members to support H.R. 1507.