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The AALL Washington E-Bulletin

<http://www.aallnet.org/aallwash/>

Vol. 2011, Issue 1
January 28, 2011

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UPDATES FROM THE HILL AND THE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OFFICE

Special Message from Mary Alice Baish, Director of Government Relations

As many of you already know, [Public Printer William J. Boarman](#) recently offered me the position of [Assistant Public Printer, Superintendent of Documents](#). I have resigned from AALL, effective today, and will assume my new responsibilities at the U.S. Government Printing Office on Monday, January 31. I am as humbled and honored to join our new Public Printer and his outstanding team at the GPO as I have been representing the interests of our Association and our members here in Washington during the past 16 years.

It has been a wonderful and memorable journey together. I can't adequately express my gratitude to all of you for your constant and strong support for the work of the Government Relations Office. It has been a great privilege to work in collaboration with our excellent leadership; the committed, hard-working members of our public policy committees and our Advocacy Team; and my wonderful staff colleagues.

Together, we *have* made a difference in effectively promoting and enhancing access to legal information while becoming *the* national leader on the authentication and preservation of digital government information. I am so proud of our Association.

As I begin this new, exciting chapter in my life at the GPO, I do have a couple of personal favors to ask of you. First and foremost, keep up the good work and, for those of you who are not yet part of our [Advocacy Team](#), please join it today. Standing together with united voices, you will continue to make a difference on the important challenges facing our libraries and our profession.

And second, AALL is committed to completing the [National Inventory of Legal Information](#) by June 30th and we need many more volunteers to assist our [State Working Groups](#). Will you join your law library colleagues in this most important and ambitious project? Please say yes by contacting [Emily Feldman](#) today. I'd also like to ask all law library directors to please give this project your full support by encouraging and enabling your staff's participation.

Adieu and thank you, my AALL family!

Mary Alice

New Advocacy Toolkit for the 112th Congress

With the new Republican leadership promising to [cut spending](#) across the Federal government, and many states continuing to experience severe budget shortfalls, we expect to face many challenges in the coming months. As a reader of our E-Bulletin, you know that we rely on *you*, members of our Advocacy Team, to help promote AALL's policy priorities at the Federal and state levels.

To help you along the way, we have just posted AALL's [Advocacy Toolkit for the 112th Congress](#) so that you can follow the important policy issues we're tracking and take action when

we need your help. The Toolkit includes information on the new congressional committee leadership; a growing list of bills we support and oppose; advice for creating or strengthening your chapter's Government Relations Committee; and tips for promoting our issues at the Federal and state levels. The Toolkit also includes a new stand-alone section for our Federal and State Working Groups so that volunteers can easily find the information they need to help them populate their legal inventories. We will continue to add resources to this section to help our volunteers meet our June 30, 2011 deadline.

Please bookmark the Toolkit so that you can stay informed whenever we update it with new action alerts, bills we're monitoring, case studies, or tips to help you advocate for law libraries. Thanks in advance for your help!

Bills We're Tracking

The House began its new session on January 5 and the Senate convened on January 25. Several members immediately introduced bills that we're closely [tracking](#).

Net Neutrality ([H.R. 96](#) and [H.R.166](#))

AALL opposes two bills that were introduced this month to prevent the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from enforcing net neutrality. The *Internet Freedom Act* ([H.R. 96](#)), introduced by Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN-7), states that the FCC "shall not propose, promulgate, or issue any regulations regarding the Internet or IP-enabled services." Rep. Blackburn has [spoken out](#) strongly against the FCC's new net neutrality rules and has [called for](#) the "repeal of the FCC overreach."

We also oppose the *Internet Investment, Innovation, and Competition Preservation Act* ([H.R.166](#)), reintroduced this Congress by Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-FL-6), to prohibit the FCC from "regulating the Internet" without first proving there is a market failure that would prevent users from accessing "a substantial amount of lawful Internet content, applications, and services of their choice on a continuing basis."

AALL [opposes these bills](#) because we believe it is the FCC's responsibility to ensure that telecommunications companies cannot create tiered levels of access to the Internet.

USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorization ([H.R. 67](#) and [S. 193](#))

AALL opposes H.R. 67, introduced by House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers (R-MI-8), to reauthorize the three provisions of the *USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005* (P.L. 109-177) for one year. These provisions, including Section 215, are set to expire on February 28, 2011. AALL opposes this bill because we believe that Section 215 needs to be carefully modified to ensure the protection of the privacy and confidentiality of library users.

On January 26, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) introduced the *USA PATRIOT Act Sunset Extension Act of 2011* ([S. 193](#)) which would extend the three expiring provisions until December 2013. We

are pleased that the bill includes a higher standard for libraries by requiring that, in order to obtain library circulation or patron lists under Section 215, the government must include a statement of facts showing that the tangible items sought are relevant to the investigation and pertain either to an agent of a foreign power, the activities of a suspected agent, or an individual in contact with or known to a suspected agent of foreign power. The bill would also allow a recipient of a National Security Letter (NSL) order to challenge its nondisclosure requirement, and adds a December 31, 2013 sunset on the use of NSLs.

Open Government Legislation

We are optimistic that members of Congress will soon introduce additional bills that promote government transparency and accountability. For example, we were very pleased to learn that Sen. Leahy [plans](#) to reintroduce his *Faster FOIA Act* later this year. This important legislation, which AALL supported in the 111th Congress, would establish a bipartisan commission to study and improve FOIA implementation.

Save the Date for March Sunshine Week Event

This year's Sunshine Week event, "[The Road Ahead for Open Government](#)," will take place on Friday, March 18, from noon to 1:30pm EDT at the Center for American Progress here in Washington, D.C. As in the past, OpenTheGovernment.org and AALL are looking for law library host sites and co-sponsors who will show the webcast and organize local programs in their communities. Many law libraries and chapters have partnered in previous years with the League of Women Voters and local open government groups to hold successful events during Sunshine Week or immediately after. For more information or to volunteer to be a host site or co-sponsor, please contact [Emily Feldman](#).

January State Working Group Spotlight: CT, GA and SC Meet our Challenge

Last December, we challenged our state working group coordinators and volunteers to add at least 75 titles to their inventories by the end of 2010. We're pleased to announce that 3 working groups exceeded our goal:

- **Connecticut State Working Group coordinator Camilla Tubbs** and her volunteers added *200* new titles.
- **Georgia State Working Group co-coordinators Anne Burnett and Sharon Bradley** and their volunteers added more than *80* new titles.
- **South Carolina Working Group coordinator Terry Conroy** and her volunteers added more than *100* new titles.

Congratulations to these state work groups and their hard-working volunteers! Since these working groups showed that this goal was well within reach, we have challenged all of our working groups to strive to add 75 titles each month from now until our June 30 deadline. Many of our working groups, including Maine and Minnesota, held in-person meetings this month to make progress toward this goal. Our recently re-launched Advocacy Toolkit includes many [resources](#) to help our state working groups, including *Six Easy Steps to Populating Your State's*

Inventory by Maine coordinator Christine Hepler, tips from coordinators and Frequently Asked Questions.

OUTSIDE THE BELTWAY: CHAPTER NEWS

LLOPS Members Help to Ensure Digital Authentication of WA Legal Resources

-Submitted by Lori Fossum and Peggy Jarrett, LLOPS

LLOPS members have been actively involved in the drafting of a bill now introduced in the Washington Legislature. House Bill 1479 was written at the request of the Statute Law Committee to give the Committee more discretion in how it publishes and distributes the state code, administrative code, and session laws. The costs of printing and distributing these official publications have not been recovered by the sale of the publications as was the case in the past, and the Committee is seeking to amend current statutes that require free distribution of the printed versions. HB 1479 gives the Committee the discretion to provide these official publications in digital format instead, while still providing print. HB 1479 includes authentication of official publications: “The statute law committee shall provide digital authentication for any publication in a digital format that is declared official, if in the discretion of the committee such authentication does not interfere with public access.” The bill also considers preservation issues: “Current digital copies [...] shall be maintained and made freely available for permanent public access on the code reviser or legislative web site. All historical digital copies added to the web site shall be made freely available for permanent public access.”

The House Judiciary Committee has placed HB 1479 on its public hearing agenda for February 2, 2011, which several LLOPS members plan to attend. We are happy that the Statute Law Committee and the Code Reviser listened to our members’ concerns about publication, access, and authentication. While not perfect, this bill is an improvement on earlier drafts, worked on prior to the start of the session. Several law librarians attended a preliminary meeting with the Code Reviser, and subsequent meetings of the Statute Law Committee. This ongoing dialogue, started before the bill was introduced, serves as a positive example of communication between law librarians and state publishing officials.

For updates, please see the [Government Relations Committee page](#) on the new LLOPS Web site.

Update on Connecticut Task Force to Study Converting Legislative Documents from Paper to Electronic Form

- Submitted by Camilla Tubbs and Jon Stock, SNELLA

The Connecticut Task Force to Study Converting Legislative Documents from Paper to Electronic Form is looking at how to distribute copies of Connecticut bills in electronic form, rather than in print. Members of the Yale Law Library shared with this task force the *AALL State-by-State Report on Permanent Public Access to Electronic Government Information*, which was then cited by the Task Force in this [report](#). The Task Force had a [meeting](#) on this topic on January 6, during which the Task Force added some additional changes to the report. It also

approved the recommendations, passing them on to the Connecticut General Assembly's Joint Committee on Legislative Management.

The Connecticut state government is also looking into ways to cut back spending on printing case reports, bills, and legislative hearings. One key bill that has just emerged is Connecticut Senate Bill 558 which proposes eliminating the print Connecticut Law Journal (CLJ) in place of an electronic version. Published by the Commission on Official Legal Publications, CLJ comes out weekly and includes all Supreme Court opinions, all Appellate Court Opinions, and all officially published Superior Court Opinions. It also promulgates new agency regulations, Practice Book revisions, and other matters of high importance.

FREE TIME WELL SPENT: *Further Reading for the Information Policy Junkie*

President Obama's State of the Union Address in FDsys

The Government Printing Office has made it easy for you to read President Obama's State of Union address. FDsys includes a prominent link on its homepage to the [address](#) in the Congressional Record. Older State of the Union addresses are also available in FDsys- try searching "state of the union."

National Archives and Kennedy Presidential Library Unveil Online Archive

On January 13, David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, and Caroline Kennedy, President of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, announced the launch of the online [archive](#) of the collection of President John F. Kennedy. The archive includes an awesome collection of approximately 200,000 pages; 300 reels of audio tape, containing more than 1,245 individual recordings of telephone calls, speeches and meetings; 300 museum artifacts; 72 reels of film; and 1,500 photos. It is the nation's largest online digitized presidential archive.

Report Reveals Growth in Classification Activity by Office of the Director of National Intelligence

A November 12, 2010 [report](#) from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) to the Information Security Oversight Office, obtained by Secrecy News, notes a significant 7.6 percent increase in derivative classification decisions over last year. Derivatively classified information can be used by anyone with a security clearance that covers allows access to classified information to create new forms of classified information, and it is a driving factor in the growth of classified information. This increase is significant because the ODNI oversees and sets the tone on openness for the intelligence community.

Internet Archive Launches New Wayback Machine in Beta

[The Internet Archive](#) has launched a new beta version of its Wayback Machine. The beta version, which uses open source software, is designed to be faster and easier to search. The new site includes a helpful toolbar on archived pages that makes it easy to navigate and explore older Web sites.

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