

Under a mandatory policy authors and publishers would be required, as a matter of practical effect, to give up any reasonable prospect of protecting their copyrights.

Madam Chairman, I believe that the NIH can achieve the laudable goals it has set by implementing the public access policy without infringing on publishers' copyrights. However, this can only be done if the policy is left in its current form and not mandated. I urge my colleagues who will be conferencing on the Labor/HHS Appropriations bill to take these issues into consideration when they finalize the legislation so that the copyright protections that are so critical to the continued advancement of science and scientific knowledge will be fully preserved.

REINTRODUCTION OF 9/11 CAN YOU
HEAR ME NOW ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, along with Representatives SHAYS and WEINER, I am reintroducing the "9/11 Can You Hear Me Now Act."

The attacks on the World Trade Center in 1993 and on September 11, 2001, exposed serious communication problems for the New York City Fire Department, FDNY. Since these attacks, there have been major efforts to improve the FDNY's communication system, but much more needs to be done. There can be no doubt that New York is a top terrorist target and the lack of a fully functional communications system is a threat not only to FDNY and New York residents' lives but also to all those who visit there.

The protection of New York City has become a national responsibility. Other cities with tall buildings throughout the country face the same challenges with their communication systems and will need the same upgrades. Improvements in New York will lay the groundwork for improvements to communications systems across the country.

The "9/11 Can You Hear Me Now Act" instructs the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, to provide the FDNY with a communication system that must be capable of operating in all locations and under the circumstances we know firefighters face and will continue to face when responding to an emergency in New York City.

This bill would require a communication system that includes three components—radios, dispatch system and a supplemental communication device. It would require it to work in all buildings and in all parts of the city. The supplemental communication device would allow firefighters to transmit an audible emergency distress signal when a firefighter is in need of immediate assistance, and DHS would work with the City of New York in their planned upgrades of the emergency 911 system and any interoperability initiatives with other public safety communication systems.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS
OF THE 70TH ANNUAL ALL-
AMERICAN SOAP BOX DERBY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of the 70th Annual All-American Soap Box Derby—one of whom, I am proud to say, is one of my neighbors and constituents from Mechanicsville, Maryland.

On July 21, 550 soap box champions from 183 cities in 43 states gathered in Akron, Ohio to compete for the National Championship. In the Stock Division, Tyler Schoff took home first place. In the Super Stock Division, Andrew Feldpausch bested the field to earn a national title as well. And in the Master's Division, Kacie Rader, of Maryland's Fifth District, took the National Championship after winning the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby in a race held right here on the Capitol grounds. Kacie is the first racer from the National Capital region—or the entire state of Maryland for that matter—to win a National Championship.

Kacie, who started her racing career at the age of 7, has worked tirelessly to earn such a noteworthy win. Last year alone, Kacie competed in 40 Soap Box Derby events and traveled to 6 different states over 20 weekends to compete. Kacie, who will be beginning her senior year at Chopticon High School in the fall, will now continue on to Indiana for the National Derby Rally Championship where she will be ranked number one in points. I along with the people of Maryland wish her the best of luck.

My congratulations go out to Kacie, Tyler, Andrew, and everyone who participated in what has become a national tradition over the last seven decades. The All-American Soap Box Derby is one of the oldest road races in America today—second only to the Indianapolis 500. And those who compete in this race are part of a long-standing legacy that highlights the best that American youths have to offer.

That is because it takes more than just athletic prowess to be a champion soap box racer. It takes imagination and creativity to design a vehicle that has the durability, handling and speed needed to win. It takes hard work and diligence to build a racer once it has been designed. And it takes intelligence and grace under pressure to successfully command a soap box racer in a racing environment.

Once again, I offer my congratulations to everyone that participated in the "greatest amateur racing event in the world." And I want to thank Kacie Rader, of Mechanicsville, Maryland, for bringing national acclaim to Maryland's Fifth District by winning the All-American Soap Box Derby Master's Division Championship.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF DEPUTY COMMIS-
SIONER DEBORAH J. SPERO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of

Ms. Deborah J. Spero of Reston, Virginia, for her service to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency as Deputy Commissioner. Ms. Spero has served this Nation with honor and distinction for 37 years, and I commend her for her dedication to public service and tireless efforts to ensure the safety of our Nation.

After the attacks of September 11th, with the creation of the Department of Homeland Security, Ms. Spero was called upon to help shape the newly established U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency, where border security, U.S. Customs Service, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Department of Agriculture, were integrated. Ms. Spero's knowledge and experience made her the logical fit to lead this most important transition, which she met with strength and resiliency.

In 2004, Commissioner Robert C. Bonner appointed Ms. Spero as Deputy Commissioner, and, in 2006, she served ably as Acting Commissioner for six months. After the confirmation of Commissioner Ralph Basham, she resumed her duties as Deputy Commissioner and has continued to lead U.S. Customs and Border Protection through the many challenges it faces to secure our Nation's borders.

Ms. Spero's commitment to this Nation is reflected in the many accolades she has amassed over her career. In 1999, she received the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award for her extraordinary accomplishments within the Customs Service and the federal government community. Additionally, in 2004, Ms. Spero received the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award for her unparalleled accomplishment and service, and in 1996 she was the recipient of the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award for her major accomplishments as an executive.

Madam Speaker, I wish to commend Ms. Spero for her many years of service to our Nation and I am proud to have her live in Virginia's 8th Congressional District. This Nation will lose a proud servant when she leaves office on August 3, 2007. I wish all the best to her and her family in her retirement.

IN SUPPORT OF THE MILITARY
DRAFT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the reinstatement of the military draft, which will ensure that the burden of war is shared by all residents of this great country.

All Americans should be given the opportunity to prove their patriotism. We should all share in the sacrifices being made by our exhausted troops. It is a fact that most of these volunteer troops come from economically depressed small towns and rural areas. As shown in a recent report by the Congressional Budget Office, children of society's affluent are the least represented class of Americans in the Armed Forces.

Sacrifices for America should not be made only by those who are less fortunate. The burden of war should be shared by all who enjoy the privileges and rights that our citizenship