

AALL ACTION ALERT
November 3, 2009

IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED:
Ask Your House Rep. to Co-Sponsor PATRIOT Act Reauthorization Bill, H.R. 3845

ACTION AT A GLANCE:

- [Thank the co-sponsors](#) of the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009* ([H.R. 3845](#))
- [Ask your representative](#) to co-sponsor the bill

BACKGROUND

On December 31, 2009, three provisions of the *USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005* (P.L. 109-177) are [scheduled to expire](#): Section 206 (roving wiretaps), [Section 215](#), and the lone wolf provision.

AALL strongly supports a bill introduced by House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI-14), Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY-8) and Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA-3), the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009* ([H.R. 3845](#)), which would raise the standard for Section 215 orders to protect private information of library users and restore the pre-PATRIOT Act standard for [National Security Letters](#). On Wednesday, November 4, 2009, the House Judiciary Committee will hold a mark up to consider the bill.

Please [email](#) or call your House representative, through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 or their district office, to ask him or her to co-sponsor the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009* ([H.R. 3845](#)).

This Alert includes our specific “asks” and sample messages so that you can easily make contact with your representative. Thank you for speaking out on this important issue and [please let us know](#) the response you receive from your representative’s office.

IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED

Message to the following House co-sponsors of the USA PATRIOT Amendments Act of 2009:

[Rep. John Conyers](#) (D-MI-14)

[Rep. Jerrold Nadler](#) (D-NY-8)

[Rep. Bobby Scott](#) (D-VA-3)

[Rep. Steve Cohen](#) (D-TN-9)

[Rep. Jane Harman](#) (D-CA-36)

[Rep. Mike Honda](#) (D-CA-15)

[Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee](#) (D-TX-18)

[Rep. Henry Johnson](#) (D-GA-4)

- Thank him/her for co-sponsoring H.R. 3845, the *USA PATRIOT Amendments Act of 2009*, which would protect the privacy of library users by raising the standard for Section 215 and amending the National Security Letter statute.
- Explain why preserving the privacy rights and civil liberties of library users and all Americans is important to you.

Sample message

Message to all House representatives who are NOT already co-sponsors of H.R. 3845:

- Ask him/her to co-sponsor H.R. 3845, the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009*, which would protect the privacy of library users by raising the standard for Section 215 and amending the National Security Letter statute.
- Explain why preserving the privacy rights and civil liberties of library users and all Americans is important to you.

Sample message

Sample Message to co-sponsors of the USA PATRIOT Amendments Act of 2009:

Please personalize your message by explaining why protecting the privacy and civil liberties of library patrons is important to you. Take a look at our [list of representatives](#) to determine if your representative has a JD and if so, please personalize your message by mentioning the law school he/she attended or any other connection you might have to him/her.

I am [writing/calling] to thank Representative [name] for co-sponsoring H.R. 3845, the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009*. As a law librarian, I support H.R. 3845 because it would raise the standard for Section 215 orders, the so-called “library provision” of the *USA PATRIOT Act*, to protect the privacy of library patrons. Importantly, the bill would also amend the National Security Letter statute to ensure that the government obtains financial, communication and credit records only of people believed to be terrorists or spies.

As a law librarian, I understand the vital importance of having a strong law that balances the needs of law enforcement with safeguards for our civil liberties. Thank you for co-sponsoring this important piece of legislation.

Sample Message to House representatives who are NOT co-sponsors of the USA PATRIOT Amendments Act of 2009:

Please personalize your message by explaining why protecting the privacy and civil liberties of library patrons is important to you. Take a look at our [list of representatives](#) to determine if your representative has a JD and if so, please personalize your message by mentioning the law school he/she attended or any other connection you might have to him/her.

I am [writing/calling] to ask that Representative [name] sign on to co-sponsor H.R. 3845, the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009*. As a law librarian, I support H.R. 3845 because it would raise the standard for Section 215 orders, the so-called “library provision” of the *USA PATRIOT Act*, to protect the privacy of library patrons. Importantly, the bill would also amend the National Security Letter statute to ensure that the government obtains financial, communication and credit records only of people believed to be terrorists or spies.

As a law librarian, I understand the vital importance of having a strong law that balances the needs of law enforcement with safeguards for our civil liberties. I urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 3845, the *USA Patriot Amendments Act of 2009*.

Thank you for your consideration.