

## 3.2 Bills We're Tracking

*Updated November 17, 2010  
(Updates and additions are highlighted in navy)*

**AALL supports the following bills (in order of introduction):**

Name	Bill Number	Purpose	Status	AALL Formal Statements
<i>Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2009</i>	<a href="#">H.R. 35</a> (Introduced Jan. 6, 2009)	To restore standards for the timely release of Presidential records and nullify Executive Order 13233 that President Bush issued in 2001.	<p>Passed the House (Jan. 7, 2009)</p> <p>Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (Jan. 8, 2009)</p> <p>Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably (April 1, 2009)</p> <p>Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar (May 19, 2009)</p>	<p>From the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress:</p> <p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Senators in support of the <i>Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007</i> (H.R. 1255, S. 886) (Dec. 7, 2007)</p> <p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Senate Majority Leader Reid in support of H.R. 1255 and S. 886 (Nov. 19, 2007)</p>
<i>Reducing Over-Classification Act of 2009</i>	<a href="#">H.R. 553</a> (Introduced Jan. 15, 2009)	To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to prevent over-classification and promote the sharing of unclassified information at the Department of Homeland Security.	<p>Passed the House (Feb. 3, 2009)</p> <p>Referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (Feb. 4, 2009)</p> <p>Ordered by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a</p>	

			<p>substitute favorably (Nov. 4, 2009)</p> <p>Passed the Senate (September 27, 2010)</p> <p>Became Public Law No: 111-258 (October 7, 2010)</p>	
<i>Over-Classification Reduction Act</i>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 854</a></p> <p>(Introduced Feb. 4, 2009)</p>	To require increased oversight and training to reduce over-classification across the federal government.	<p>Ordered by the House Comm. on Oversight and Government Reform to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote (Feb. 11, 2009)</p>	
<i>Plain Language Act of 2009</i>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 946</a>;</p> <p>(Introduced Feb. 10, 2009)</p> <p><a href="#">S.574</a></p> <p>(Introduced March 11, 2009)</p>	To enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing that Government documents issued to the public must be written clearly.	<p>Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Feb. 10, 2009)</p> <p>Passed the House (March 17, 2010)</p> <p>Referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (March 11, 2009)</p> <p>Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably (April 1, 2009)</p> <p>H.R. 946 passed the Senate (September 27, 2010)</p> <p>H.R. 946 became Public Law No:</p>	<p>From the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress:</p> <p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Sen. Daniel K. Akaka in support of The Plain Language in Government Communications Act of 2007, S. 2291 (Dec. 18, 2007)</p>

			111-274 (October 13, 2010)	
<i>Free Flow of Information Act of 2009</i>	<a href="#">H.R. 985</a> (Introduced Feb. 11, 2009)	To offer a qualified privilege for journalists so that would not be compelled to identify sources or hand over confidential material except under limited circumstances.	Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote by the House Committee on the Judiciary (March 25, 2009)  Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (April 1, 2009)	
<i>Reducing Information Control Designations Act</i>	<a href="#">H.R. 1323</a> (Introduced March 5, 2009)	To require the Archivist of the United States to promulgate regulations regarding the use of information control designations (often called "sensitive but unclassified" (SBU) information and "controlled unclassified information" (CUI)).	Passed the House (March 17, 2009)  Referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (March 18, 2009)	
<i>Electronic Message Preservation Act</i>	<a href="#">H.R.1387</a> (Introduced March 9, 2009)	To require the Archivist of the United States to promulgate regulations governing agency preservation of electronic messages.	Passed the House (March 17, 2010)  Referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (March 18, 2009)	

<p><i>Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R.1507</a>; (Introduced March 12, 2009)</p> <p><a href="#">S.372</a> (Introduced Feb. 3, 2009)</p>	<p>To strengthen whistleblower protections for federal employees who expose waste, fraud, and abuse.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and House Committee on Homeland Security (March 12, 2009)</p> <p>Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs ordered S. 372 to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorable (July 27, 2009)</p> <p>Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Dec. 3, 2009)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to President Obama and Members of Congress in support of strong whistleblower protections (May 15, 2009)</p>
<p><i>State Secrets Protection Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S. 417</a>; (Introduced Feb. 11, 2009)</p> <p><a href="#">H.R. 984</a> (Introduced Feb. 11, 2009)</p>	<p>To enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege.</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary (Feb. 11, 2009)</p> <p>H.R. 984 was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary (Feb. 11, 2009) Ordered to be Reported (Amended) (Nov. 5, 2009)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Sessions in support of the <i>State Secrets Protection Act</i>, S. 417 (May 20, 2009)</p>
<p><i>Senate Campaign Disclosure Parity Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S. 482</a> (Introduced Feb. 25, 2009)</p>	<p>To require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.</p>	<p>Placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders (Feb. 26, 2009)</p>	

<p><i>Federal Advisory Committee Act Amendments of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">HR 1320</a> (Introduced March 5, 2009)</p>	<p>To amend the Federal Advisory Committee Act to increase the transparency and accountability of Federal advisory committees, and for other purposes.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (March 5, 2009)</p> <p>Reported favorably by the Committee (June 4, 2009)</p> <p>Passed the House (July 26, 2010)</p>	
<p><i>To authorize appropriations for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission through fiscal year 2014</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 1556</a> (Introduced March 17, 2009)</p>	<p>To authorize \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014.</p>	<p>Referred to the Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives (May 4, 2009)</p>	
<p><i>OPEN FOIA Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S. 612</a> (Introduced March 17, 2009)</p>	<p>To make Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemptions more transparent.</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary (March 17, 2009)</p>	<p>From the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress: <a href="#">Letter</a> to Sens. Patrick J. Leahy and Arlen Specter in support of the <i>OPEN FOIA Act</i>, S. 2746 (July 7, 2008)</p>
<p><i>National Security Letters Reform Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 1800</a> (Introduced March 30, 2009)</p>	<p>To establish reasonable procedural protections for the use of national security letters.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security and Committee on House Financial Services (April 27, 2009)</p>	

<i>Presidential Signing Statements Act of 2009</i>	<a href="#">S.875</a> (Introduced April 23, 2009)	To regulate the judicial use of presidential signing statements.	Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary (April 23, 2009)	
<i>A resolution to provide Internet access to certain Congressional Research Service publications</i>	<a href="#">S. Res. 118</a> (Introduced April 29, 2009)	To give the public access to CRS reports by creating a centralized electronic system that would allow members of the public to search for reports and issue briefs.  S. Res 118 would also require that an index of reports and issue briefs be made publicly available.	Referred to the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration (April 29, 2009)	<a href="#">Letter</a> to Sens. Joseph I. Lieberman and John McCain in support of S. Res. 118 (May 20, 2009)  <a href="#">Letter</a> to Chairman Schumer and Senator Bennett to urge the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration to pass S. Res. 118 (May 14, 2009)
<i>Preserving the American Historical Record Act</i>	<a href="#">H.R. 2256</a> (Introduced May 5, 2009)  <a href="#">S. 3227</a> (Introduced April 19, 2010)	To authorize the Archivist of the United States to make grants to States for the preservation and dissemination of historical records.	H.R. 2256 was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (May 5, 2009)  Referred to the Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives (July 31, 2009)  S. 3227 was referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (April 19, 2010)	
<i>William Orton Law Library Improvement</i>	<a href="#">H.R. 2728</a>	To provide increased funding for the Law Library	Reported (Amended) by	<a href="#">Joint letter</a> from AALL and the



<p><i>Judiciously Using Surveillance Tools In Counterterrorism Efforts (JUSTICE) Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S.1686</a> (Introduced September 17, 2009)</p>	<p>To place reasonable safeguards on the use of surveillance and other authorities under the <i>USA PATRIOT Act</i>.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (Sept. 17, 2009)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to co-sponsors of the <i>JUSTICE Act</i> in support of the bill (Sept. 23, 2009)</p>
<p><i>USA PATRIOT Amendments Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 3845</a> (Introduced October 20, 2009)</p>	<p>To extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism and protect civil liberties, including the expiring provisions of the <i>USA PATRIOT Act</i> and the authority to issue national security letters.</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Committee on Financial Services (Oct. 20, 2009)</p> <p>Ordered to be reported (amended) (Nov. 5, 2009)</p> <p>House Committee on Financial Services Granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than Jan. 29, 2010 (Dec. 16, 2009)</p>	
<p><i>A bill to authorize appropriations for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission through fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S.2872</a> (Introduced December 11, 2009)</p>		<p>Ordered by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. to be reported with amendments favorably (Dec. 16, 2009)</p> <p>Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar (June 21, 2010)</p>	

<p><i>Faster FOIA Act of 2010</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S.3111</a> (Introduced March 15, 2010)</p> <p><a href="#">H.R.5087</a> (Introduced April 20, 2010)</p>	<p>To establish the temporary Commission on Freedom of Information Act Processing Delays.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (March 15, 2010)</p> <p>Ordered to be reported (amended) (April 19, 2010)</p> <p>Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (April 20, 2010)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to The Honorable Patrick Leahy and The Honorable John Cornyn is support of the bill (March 17, 2010)</p>
<p><i>Earmark Transparency Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 5258</a> (Introduced May 11, 2010)</p> <p><a href="#">S. 3335</a> (Introduced May 11, 2010)</p>	<p>To require the Clerk of the House of Representatives and Secretary of the Senate, establish a free public searchable Web site of congressional earmarks.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on Rules and the Committee on the Budget (May 11, 2010)</p> <p>Referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (May 11, 2010)</p>	<p>Letters to Members of the <a href="#">House</a> and <a href="#">Senate</a> to urge them to co-sponsor the bill (June 16, 2010)</p>
<p><i>Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 6026</a> (Introduced July 30, 2010)</p>	<p>To require the Office of Management and Budget to create a publicly accessible Web site that allows the public to obtain electronic copies of congressionally mandated reports.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (July 30, 2010)</p>	

<p><i>A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to provide for certain disclosures under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S.3717</a> (Introduced August 5, 2010)</p> <p><a href="#">H.R.6086</a> (Introduced August 10, 2010)</p>	<p>Strikes a FOIA exemption created for certain records provided to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) under Section 929I of the <i>Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act</i>.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (August 5, 2010)</p> <p>Passed the Senate (September 21, 2010)</p> <p>S. 3717 passed the House (September 23, 2010)</p> <p>Became Public Law No: 111-257 (October 5, 2010)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy, sponsor of S. 3717, in support of the bill (August 10, 2010)</p>
<p><i>A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S. 446</a></p>		<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (February 13, 2009)</p> <p>Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably (April 29, 2010)</p> <p>Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar (June 8, 2010)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Members of the United States Senate in support of the bill (October 28, 2010)</p>

**AALL opposes the following bills:**

Name	Bill Number	Purpose	Status	AALL Formal Statements
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<p><i>The Fair Copyright in Research Works Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R. 801</a> (Introduced February 2, 2009)</p>	<p>To amend title 17, United States Code, with respect to works connected to certain funding agreements.</p> <p>Would effectively reverse public access policy at National Institutes of Health (NIH), and prevent similar policies at other agencies.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary (Feb. 3, 2009)</p>	<p><a href="#">Letter</a> to Members of the House Judiciary Committee</p> <p>To ask Committee members to oppose The Fair Copyright in Research Works Act, H.R. 801 (Feb. 13, 2009)</p>
<p><i>Safe and Secure America Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H. R. 1467</a> (Introduced March 12, 2009)</p>	<p>To extend certain provisions of the <i>USA PATRIOT Act</i> and the <i>Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act</i> of 2004 for 10 years.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary (March 12, 2009)</p> <p>Referred to the House Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select) (March 12, 2009)</p>	<p>For more information, please see our <a href="#">Issue Brief</a>, “2009-2010 Reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act.”</p>
<p><i>USA PATRIOT Act Sunset Extension Act of 2009</i></p> <p>NOTE: AALL supported this bill as introduced. However, a substitute bill introduced by Sens. Leahy and Feinstein and subsequent amendments adopted by the Committee severely weakened the protections for libraries.</p>	<p><a href="#">S.1692</a> (Introduced September 22, 2009)</p>	<p>To extend the sunset of certain provisions of the <i>USA PATRIOT Act</i>, including Sec. 215, the so-called “library provision,” and the authority to issue national security letters.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (Sept. 22, 2009)</p> <p>Favorably reported out of committee with an amendment in the nature of a substitute (Oct. 13, 2009)</p>	<p>Letters to <a href="#">The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy</a>, <a href="#">The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin</a>, and <a href="#">The Honorable Ted Kaufman</a> in support of the bill, as introduced (Sept. 25, 2009)</p> <p>For more information, please see our <a href="#">Issue Brief</a>.</p>

<p><i>USA PATRIOT Reauthorization and Additional Weapons Against Terrorism Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S.1726</a> (Introduced Sept. 29, 2009)</p>	<p>To reauthorize the expiring intelligence tools of the <i>USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005</i> and improve classified procedures and criminal law reforms.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (Sept. 29, 2009)</p>	<p>For more information, please see our <a href="#">Issue Brief</a>, “2009-2010 Reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act.”</p>
<p><i>USA PATRIOT Reauthorization Act of 2009</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S.2336</a> (Introduced October 29, 2009)</p>	<p>To reauthorize the 3 expiring provisions of the <i>USA PATRIOT Improvements and Reauthorization Act</i>.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary (Oct. 29, 2009)</p>	<p>For more information, please see our <a href="#">Issue Brief</a>, “2009-2010 Reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act.”</p>
<p><i>Internet Investment, Innovation, and Competition Preservation Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R.5257</a> (Introduced May 11, 2010)</p>	<p>To prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from regulating information services or Internet access services absent a market failure.</p>	<p>Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce (May 11, 2010)</p>	
<p><i>Freedom For Consumer Choice Act</i></p>	<p><a href="#">S. 3624</a> (Introduced July 21, 2010)</p>	<p>To establish a new, competition analysis-based regulatory framework for the Federal Communications Commission.  Would effectively block the FCC from implementing its National Broadband Plan.</p>	<p>Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation (July 21, 2010)</p>	

**AALL is monitoring the following bills:**

<p><i>To amend title 44, United States Code, to eliminate the mandatory printing of bills and resolutions by the Government Printing Office for the use of the House of Representatives and Senate.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">H.R.4640</a> (Introduced February 22, 2010)</p>	<p>To require the Public Printer to make bills and resolutions available in electronic format only, unless requested by a Member or Committee.</p>	<p>Referred to the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Rules (Feb. 22, 2010)</p>	
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