

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.

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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.

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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.

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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

grants. My bill to reinstate the draft would ensure that. It not only provides the manpower necessary to restore our exhausted troops but repairs the broken military. Furthermore, with a draft in place, decision-makers would be more cautious about sending America's sons and daughters into harm's way.

I believe our troops should be withdrawn from Iraq as soon as possible. But as long as our troops are there it will be up to the President and the Congress to ensure that the whole Nation, in some way, shares their sacrifice.

In times of war it should be the duty of all citizens to contribute to the effort. There is honor and pride in military service, but we do harm to our troops if we make them alone responsible for paying the price.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 26, 2007*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on July 18, 2007, I inadvertently failed to vote on Price Amendment to H.R. 3043 (Rollcall No. 653). Had I voted, I would have voted "no."

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17TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES  
ACT

**HON. DAVID LOESACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 26, 2007*

Mr. LOESACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 17th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. I remember when this bill was signed into law in 1990. As an Iowan, I was proud to be represented in the United States Senate by TOM HARKIN who helped lead the fight for this important legislation and is a true champion to people with disabilities. As an American, I was proud to be a part of a country that understood true equality and was unafraid to take steps toward achieving it.

The ADA was one of the greatest victories in civil rights since the Civil Rights Act of

1964. The effects of this legislation reverberated across the country as those who had been forced into the shadows and treated as second-class citizens were brought into the light and granted the rights and opportunities they long deserved.

While we have made great strides, this fight is not over. Justin Dart Jr., who was widely recognized as "the father of the Americans with Disabilities Act" and "the godfather of the disability rights movement," once wrote, "ADA is only the beginning. It is not a solution. Rather, it is an essential foundation on which solutions will be constructed."

This Congress is ready to answer Justin's call to action. I am a proud cosponsor of the ADA Restoration Act of 2007 which was introduced earlier today by Majority Leader HOYER. In recent years, the Supreme Court has slowly chipped away at the broad protections of the ADA and has created a new set of barriers for Americans with disabilities. Under the cramped interpretation of the ADA by the courts, a broad range of people with physical and mental impairments have been held not to be "disabled enough" to gain the protections of the law. This is not what Congress intended when it passed the ADA. The ADA Restoration Act focuses on the discrimination that people experience rather than focusing on their ability to prove that they have a disability.

I'm also proud to be a co-sponsor of the Community Choice Act which would provide community-based supports for persons with disabilities and older Americans. This legislation just makes sense—it gives individuals more options to remain in their own communities, and their own homes, rather than having to be placed in a nursing home or other institution.

These bills continue to move us forward and closer to our goals. We are building a momentum that will be impossible to stop.

I encourage all of my colleagues to commit to keep the ADA strong. Congress must continue the fight for equal rights for all people.

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GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 26, 2007*

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, July 22, 2007 is the third anniversary of the U.S. Congress's

declaration that the tragedy in Darfur truly is a genocide. That declaration, as well as former Secretary of State Colin Powell's declaration, was intended to clearly delineate to the international community the true extent of the devastating death, destruction, rape and other human rights violations.

Over the years, my colleagues and I have given a number of speeches about Sudan and specifically about Darfur. Yet, with all the proof that NGOs, journalists, and humanitarian workers have presented, the attacks and atrocities against the people of Darfur continue.

Clearly the abusive regime in Khartoum does not care about stopping the suffering, otherwise the Janjaweed militias would not be able to wreak havoc wherever they go.

A recent report by Refugees International details the fact that rape is "an integral part of the pattern of violence that the government of Sudan is inflicting upon the targeted ethnic groups of Darfur." Listen to those words—that means the Janjaweed, under the orders of their masters in Khartoum, are deliberately raping the women to impregnate them and "purify" them racially.

The trauma imposed on the women of Darfur is unthinkable, yet reportedly is simply the implementation of a policy. What kind of government has a policy to ethnically cleanse, via rape, their peoples? Not a government that should have any power.

Madam Speaker, it is beyond comprehension that when the international community clearly knows that genocide is occurring, there would not be enough concern or political will to come down hard on Khartoum to end the death and destruction.

The fact that we must continue to raise the reality of genocide in Darfur means that we, the U.S. and the international community, have not done enough.

The international community has no excuse, because we know what is happening. There is no hidden agenda—the Sudanese government and their brutal militias have made their goals clear. The real question is—does the international community care enough to go after the Khartoum government and its puppet militias?

To the people of Darfur, we stand in solidarity with you.