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Subject [BULK] ASISPAC Quarterly Newsletter 2nd Quarter 2010

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This Government Affairs and Public Policy Newsletter provides ASISPAC contributors with the latest information regarding the involvement of ASIS with Members of the U.S. Congress and the Department of Homeland Security.

HOMELAND SECURITY NEWS

ASIS met in May with officials from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to discuss organization and conduct of the DHS National Level Exercise, a major anti-terrorism exercise intended to test national capabilities to combat attacks on the country. The meeting was attended by representatives of all eighteen critical industry sectors as well as senior government officials. As the only organization of security professionals represented, ASIS specifically addressed the interests and needs of security professionals as a partner of government in contingency planning.

ASIS also participated in a DHS Association Partners meeting last quarter. ASIS was one of a dozen associations to meet with DHS officials for a lengthy discussion of information-sharing. The Private Sector Office at DHS, as well as their Infrastructure Protection and Information & Analysis Divisions, sponsored the meeting and also participated. Again, ASIS was the only organization of security professionals represented.

BILLS TO WATCH (cont.)

Senator Lieberman's bill, S. 3480, would create a Senate-confirmed White House official to oversee the nation's computer defenses, would establish a National Center for Cybersecurity and Communications within DHS (modeled after the National Counterterrorism Center), and would give the President limited authority over portions of the Internet following a cyber emergency. S. 3480 has passed through Committee and awaits further action in the Senate. Lieberman has indicated an interest in combining his bill with the Rockefeller-Snowe bill to create more comprehensive cybersecurity reform.

ASIS will seek input on these and other legislative issues from its Advisory Committee on Public Policy.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

Mark your calendars for the 2010 ASISPAC Fundraising Dinner to be held on Monday, October 11th at the Dallas Chop House

Earlier in the quarter, ASIS attended a meeting with Rand Beers, DHS Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate. Mr. Beers oversees several functions at the Department that are of paramount importance to ASIS and its members, including Infrastructure Protection and Information Sharing. Mr. Beers provided a good overview of his objectives which do not differ markedly from those of the previous administration. His remarks indicated a willingness to allow industry to develop and implement those measures it deems most effective.

BILLS TO WATCH

ASIS continues to monitor federal security legislation throughout the second session of the 111th Congress. Consistent attention has been given to bills that would federalize cybersecurity and set performance measures for private industry. One bill, known as the "Rockefeller-Snowe" bill or S. 773, would empower the government to set and enforce cybersecurity standards and professional certification mandates for owners and operators of critical infrastructure information systems. Companies that comply would receive public recognition for adopting standards and certification programs. Those that fail to comply through two consecutive audits would be required to work with government and private sector colleagues within their sector to develop a remediation plan. It also calls on the President, utilizing private sector input, to develop a comprehensive national cybersecurity strategy.

S. 773 passed the Senate Commerce Committee last March, though next steps remain unclear. No companion bill exists in the House, and progress in the Senate is complicated by the introduction of another cybersecurity bill in the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee by Senator Joseph Lieberman (I-CT).

Restaurant in downtown Dallas, Texas. Please plan to join fellow contributors and invited Members of Congress for an evening of award-winning food and good company. Invitations will be mailed in the coming weeks.

2010 ASISPAC COMMITTEE

ASIS would like to thank the following members for continuing to serve on the 2010 ASISPAC Committee: Marene Allison; Linda Florence, CPP; Geoff Craighead, CPP; and Bob Hulshouser, CPP.

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

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For more information regarding this newsletter or how to contribute to ASISPAC, please contact Kristin (Watchorn) Rubin at +1.703.518.1487 or kristin.watchorn@asisonline.org .

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- President Theodore Roosevelt

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