



To: The Honorable Rory Lancman
New York State Assembly

From: Dan Wempa 
Vice President, External Affairs

Date: April 2, 2009

Re: Non-Profit Homeland Security Preparedness Act

On behalf of the New York Hall of Science, I am writing to express my support for the Nonprofit Homeland Security Study Act. This is especially important in the cultural community, as our institutions are considered "soft targets," and federal funds have not been sufficient in addressing the need to protect our facilities. This bill will represent a significant step forward in addressing that priority.

Located very near to two major airports, and immediately across the street from two sports venues in a park that hosts more than 10 million annual visitors, the New York Hall of Science is especially sensitive to the need for enhanced security, and we have undertaken a number of initiatives to improve our preparedness for unforeseeable events, but there is only so much we can do alone. Government leadership in this regard is what is most needed. We are encouraged by this proposed legislation (A1246/S1743) and we look forward to its passage. If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact me.