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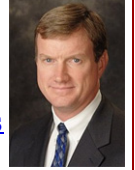
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Bill Seeks to Add Teeth to Laws on International Child Abduction

May 20th, 2011 by Robert Franklin, Esq.

Our good friend and occasional contributor, Marcy Beildeck sends us this information on a hearing that's to be held May 24th before the House Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health and Human Rights chaired by Christopher Smith of New Jersey. The subject of the hearing is international child abduction and the goal of those participating is to get Congress to pass and the President to sign a bill creating an Ambassador-at-Large position to deal exclusively with cases of international child abduction.

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Below is information about the hearing. Those promoting the bill are encouraging people to attend the open meeting and express their support for the bill.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights
 Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ)
 International Child Abduction:
 Broken Laws and Bereaved Lives

You are respectfully requested to attend the following open hearing of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights to be held in Room 2203 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Date Tuesday, May 24, 2011
 Time 2:00 PM
 Location Room 2203 of the Rayburn House Office Building

witnesses Panel I:

Mr. David Goldman
 Father of Abducted and Subsequently Returned Child

Ms. Sarah Edwards
 Mother of Abducted Child

Mr. Carlos Bermudez
 Father of Abducted Child

Panel II
 Mr. Michel Elias
 Father of Abducted Children

Mr. Joshua Izzard
 Father of Abducted Child

Ms. Patricia Apy
 Attorney
 Paras, Apy & Reiss, P.C.

Note Further witnesses may be added.

It should come as no surprise that the bill is before Chris Smith's subcommittee. He's from New Jersey and was instrumental in assisting David Goldman secure the return of his son Sean from Brazil to which his mother had abducted him some four years previously. And, as [this article](#) tells us, Goldman's is one of the most persuasive voices in support of the Ambassador-at-Large concept (*Eatontown-Tinton Falls Patch*, 5/17/11).

David Goldman, who brought his son, Sean, back to New Jersey in 2009, has not given up his fight on international child custody issues, saying

