



**FROM *FAIR* (v. *RUMSFELD*) TO EQUAL:
THE “DON’T ASK, DON’T TELL”
LAW STUDENT REPEAL TOOLKIT**



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July 2, 2007

Dear Law Student,

Thank you for participating in this workshop addressing what you can do to fight for equality in the military. This toolkit is aimed at providing you with information and, more importantly, concrete steps you can take to work for an end to discrimination against lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals in the armed forces.

In light of the March 2006 decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Rumsfeld v. FAIR*, which upheld the Solomon Amendment, military personnel are able to recruit on law school and university campuses, despite the military's discriminatory employment practices regarding lesbian, gay and bisexual service members. Although law schools are no longer able to restrict on-campus military recruiting without the loss of federal funding, you can still work to end discrimination in on-campus recruiting by addressing the problem at its core – repealing “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

As a law student, you are in a unique position to work for the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” You are part of a legacy of law students deeply invested in ending this discrimination, who have spearheaded organized resistance to anti-gay discrimination in military recruiting since the Solomon Amendment was passed in 1995. You comprise an ever-growing lobby of trained advocates, representing every corner of the country, with the resources to succeed. You are backed by the Society of American Law Teachers and the Association of American Law Schools, and you are flanked by the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Most importantly, law students have done this before – together, we achieved a partial repeal of the Solomon Amendment in 1999 through a simple letter-writing campaign.

So, what can you do? You can:

- Read this toolkit, get informed, get energized and get engaged!
- Write to your Senators and Representative and urge them to sponsor and co-sponsor, respectively, legislation that would repeal “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” and encourage your peers to do the same.
- Meet with your congressperson in their home district, educate them about the intimate impact “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” has on your campus and urge them to support or take the lead in the repeal effort. Encourage your peers to do the same.
- Work with your school, your city and/or your state to pass a resolution calling for an end to “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”
- Encourage dialogue and educate your peers through brown-bag workshops, panels and other campus amelioration activities.

In this toolkit, you will find everything you need to get started on each of these activities. You will also find contact information with which to reach us anytime you have questions. Repealing “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” and ending discrimination in on-campus recruiting is not a question of “whether,” but “when.” Join us, and together, let’s accelerate this inevitability.

Sincerely,

Kara Suffredini, Esq.
State Legislative Director
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

Sharon Alexander, Esq.
Deputy Director for Policy
Servicemembers Legal Defense Network



PROPOSED REPEAL LEGISLATION AND DETAILED LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS

THE MILITARY READINESS ENHANCEMENT ACT (H.R. 1246)

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

H.R. 1246, The Military Readiness Enhancement Act (MREA) of 2007, was introduced in the House of Representatives on February 28, 2007 by Rep. Martin Meehan (D-MA) with 109 original bipartisan cosponsors. On July 1, 2007, Rep. Meehan left Congress, and Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-CA) succeeded him as MREA's lead sponsor.

CURRENT STATUS

House:

As of June 18, 2007, there were 127 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives. The MREA was referred to the House Committee on Armed Services February 28, 2007 and then to the subcommittee on Military Personnel on March 28, 2007.

Senate:

There is currently no Senate legislation to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Although there are several Democrats that have expressed a willingness to introduce such legislation, there is not yet the bipartisan support that is needed to pass any legislation.

TEXT OF BILL

Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2007

110th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 1246

To amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the readiness of the Armed Forces by replacing the current policy concerning homosexuality in the Armed Forces, referred to as 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell', with a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 28, 2007

Mr. MEEHAN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. WYNN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. WEINER, Ms. LEE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WU, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. WATSON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MCDERMOTT,

Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. OLVER, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. CARSON, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. WATERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. STARK, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. HARE, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HOLT, Mr. FARR, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. BERKLEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. CLAY, Mr. BECERRA, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the readiness of the Armed Forces by replacing the current policy concerning homosexuality in the Armed Forces, referred to as 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell', with a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2007'.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to institute in the Armed Forces a policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation.

SEC. 3. REPEAL OF 1993 POLICY CONCERNING HOMOSEXUALITY IN THE ARMED FORCES.

The following provisions of law are repealed:

- (1) Section 654 of title 10, United States Code.
- (2) Subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 571 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994 (10 U.S.C. 654 note).

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICY OF NONDISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION IN THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) Establishment of Policy- (1) Chapter 37 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

`Sec. 656. Policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation

`(a) Policy- The Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, may not discriminate on the basis of sexual

orientation against any member of the armed forces or against any person seeking to become a member of the armed forces.

`(b) Discrimination on Basis of Sexual Orientation- For purposes of this section, discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is—

`(1) in the case of a member of the armed forces, the taking of any personnel or administrative action (including any action relating to promotion, demotion, evaluation, selection for an award, selection for a duty assignment, transfer, or separation) in whole or in part on the basis of sexual orientation; and

`(2) in the case of a person seeking to become a member of the armed forces, denial of accession into the armed forces in whole or in part on the basis of sexual orientation.

`(c) Personnel and Administrative Policies and Action- The Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, may not establish, implement, or apply any personnel or administrative policy, or take any personnel or administrative action (including any policy or action relating to promotions, demotions, evaluations, selections for awards, selections for duty assignments, transfers, or separations) in whole or in part on the basis of sexual orientation.

`(d) Rules and Policies Regarding Conduct- Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, from prescribing or enforcing regulations governing the conduct of members of the armed forces if the regulations are designed and applied without regard to sexual orientation.

`(e) Re-Accession of Otherwise Qualified Persons Permitted- Any person separated from the armed forces for homosexuality, bisexuality, or homosexual conduct in accordance with laws and regulations in effect before the date of the enactment of this section, if otherwise qualified for re-accession into the armed forces, shall not be prohibited from re-accession into the armed forces on the sole basis of such separation.

`(f) Sexual Orientation- In this section, the term `sexual orientation' means heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality, whether the orientation is real or perceived, and includes statements and consensual sexual conduct manifesting heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality.'

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended--

(A) by striking the item relating to section 654; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new item:

`656. Policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation in the armed forces.'

(b) Conforming Amendments- Title 10, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) Section 481 is amended--

(A) In subsection (a)(2), by inserting `, including sexual orientation discrimination,' after `discrimination' in subparagraphs (C) and (D); and

(B) in subsection (c), by inserting `and sexual orientation-based' after `gender-based' both places it appears.

(2) Section 983(a)(1) is amended by striking `(in accordance with section 654 of this title and other applicable Federal laws)'

(3) Section 1034(i)(3) is amended by inserting 'sexual orientation,' after 'sex,'.

SEC. 5. BENEFITS.

Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to require the furnishing of dependent benefits in violation of section 7 of title 1, United States Code (relating to the definitions of 'marriage' and 'spouse' and referred to as the 'Defense of Marriage Act').

SEC. 6. NO PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR DAMAGES.

Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to create a private cause of action for damages.

SEC. 7. REGULATIONS.

(a) In General- Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall revise Department of Defense regulations, and shall issue such new regulations as may be necessary, to implement section 656 of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 4(a). The Secretary of Defense shall further direct the Secretary of each military department to revise regulations of that military department in accordance with section 656 of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 4(a), not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Such revisions shall include the following:

- (1) Revision of all equal opportunity and human relations regulations, directives, and instructions to add sexual orientation nondiscrimination to the Department of Defense Equal Opportunity policy and to related human relations training programs.
- (2) Revision of Department of Defense and military department personnel regulations to eliminate procedures for involuntary discharges based on sexual orientation.
- (3) Revision of Department of Defense and military department regulations governing victims' advocacy programs to include sexual orientation discrimination among the forms of discrimination for which members of the Armed Forces and their families may seek assistance.

(b) Regulation of Conduct- The Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy, shall ensure that regulations governing the personal conduct of members of the Armed Forces shall be written and enforced without regard to sexual orientation.

(c) Definition- In this section, the term 'sexual orientation' has the meaning given that term in section 656(f) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 4(a).

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short Title. Section 1 provides the short title for the legislation. The “Military Readiness Enhancement Act” is the title of this legislation.

Section 2. Purpose. Section 2 identifies the purpose of the legislation, which is to repeal 10 U.S.C. 654 and replace it with a new policy of non-discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Armed Forces.

Section 3. Repeal of 1994 Policy Concerning Homosexuality in the Armed Forces. This section repeals the current law, 10 U.S.C. 654.

Section 4. Policy of Non-Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation in the Armed Forces.

(a). Establishment of Policy. This section establishes a new law prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in the Armed Forces.

(1). This section provides for a policy of non-discrimination based on sexual orientation in the Armed Forces, to be titled 10 U.S.C. 656.

(a) Policy. Subsection (a) provides the new policy statement, prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination within the Armed Forces and among people seeking entry into the Armed Forces.

(b) Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation. This subsection provides a non-exclusive list of what constitutes discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the Armed Forces. For current members of the Armed Forces, this section includes within the definition of sexual orientation discrimination any personnel or administrative action taken in whole or in part on the basis of sexual orientation. For applicants for military service, denial of accession made in whole or in part on the basis of sexual orientation constitutes sexual orientation discrimination.

(c) Personnel and Administrative Policies and Action. This section prohibits the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard when it is not operating under the Navy, from establishing, implementing or applying any personnel or administrative policies, or taking an personnel or administrative action, in whole or in part on the basis of sexual orientation. It is designed to prevent the military from re-instituting discriminatory policies once “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” is repealed.

(d) Rules and Policies Regarding Conduct. This language is modeled on ENDA’s Section 11(a), “Construction: Employer Rules and Policies.” It is intended to clarify that nothing in the legislation will prevent the military from continuing to regulate the conduct of its members, as long as any such regulation is written and enforced in a sexual orientation-neutral manner.

(e) Re-accession of Otherwise Qualified Persons Permitted. This language provides the opportunity for persons discharged for homosexuality or homosexual conduct under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” or its predecessor regulations to re-apply for entry into the Armed Forces. The “otherwise qualified” language makes clear that there is no absolute right of re-entry for anyone discharged under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” or the predecessor regulations. For example, age and physical requirements to re-enter the military would still be applied to persons who wished to re-enter the Armed Forces under this provision.

(f) Sexual Orientation. Sexual orientation is defined as “heterosexuality, bisexuality, or homosexuality, whether the orientation is real or perceived, and includes statements and consensual sexual conduct manifesting heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality.” This first part of this definition is fairly standard, and consistent with most state law definitions of sexual orientation. It is consistent with although broader than the only current federal statutory definition of sexual orientation, which appears in 28 U.S.C. 534, the federal hate crimes reporting statute. This definition is “consensual homosexuality or heterosexuality.”

The second part of the definition is meant to ensure that the gap created between status and conduct through the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy will not persist beyond the policy’s repeal. Military discharges based on statements of sexual orientation or conduct manifesting homosexual or bisexual orientation form the basis of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” The distinction is cemented in case law challenging the ban on constitutional grounds. Without the second part of this definition, it is possible Defense Department officials could effectively continue a policy of discriminating based on statements or conduct, versus sexual orientation per se.

(2). Section 4 subsection (a)(2) provides the necessary changes to the table of contents to reflect the deletion of 10 U.S.C. 654 and the addition of 10 U.S.C. 656.

(b). Conforming Amendments. Section 4 subsection (b) provides the conforming amendments required by the new legislation.

(1). Subsection (b)(1) adds sexual orientation discrimination to a list of issues statutorily mandated for quadrennial surveys by the Department of Defense.

(2). Subsection (b)(2) modifies the Solomon Amendment to remove the reference to 10 U.S.C. 654 and related laws. It is unclear whether the Solomon Amendment will have any relevance once the current Section 654 is repealed. However, the consequence of leaving 10 U.S.C. 983 as it is would be the possibility that certain schools might prohibit military recruiters from their campuses because of the military’s new policy of non-discrimination based on sexual orientation.

(3). Subsection (b)(3) adds sexual orientation to the definition of “unlawful discrimination” in the code provision prohibiting retaliatory personnel actions.

Section 5. Benefits. This provision makes clear that this legislation does not require the military to provide dependent benefits in violation of the Defense of Marriage Act.

Section 6. No Private Cause of Action for Damages. This section makes clear that this legislation does not create a private cause of action for damages.

Section 7. Regulations. This section provides the authority to issue regulations implementing this legislation and gives guidance as to the content of those regulations.

(a). In General. The Secretary of Defense has 90 days following enactment of the legislation to issue Department of Defense regulations implementing the legislation, and must direct each service to revise its regulations no later than 180 days after the enactment of the legislation. Regulations which must be amended include but are not limited to:

- (1). All Equal Opportunity and Human Relations regulations, directives, and instructions and training guidance;
- (2). Personnel regulations governing involuntary discharges;

(3). Victim's advocacy regulations to include sexual orientation discrimination among the forms of discrimination for which members of the Armed Forces and their families may seek assistance. This provision is intended to ensure that victims of sexual orientation-based hate violence and sexual orientation discrimination can access Victims' Advocacy programs to the same extent that other victims of prohibited discrimination and hate violence can.

(b). Regulation of Conduct. This provision mandates the regulations governing service members' conduct be written and enforced without regard to sexual orientation. It is essentially a reiteration of Section 3 (c), but we think it is important that this concept appear in both the policy section and the regulation section of the legislation as a political matter.

(c). Definition. This section provides reference to the new 10 USC 656(f) for the definition of sexual orientation.



LETTER WRITING: THE PEN REALLY IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD!

Writing a letter to your Senator or Representative may seem like a waste of time. After all, they must get hundreds of letters a day, so why should one matter, right? Nothing could be farther from the truth. Staff members keep careful records of the correspondence they receive from constituents and elected leaders know that letters take time to write. For example, letters from law students opposing the Solomon Amendment prompted its partial repeal in 2000. Whether you send a letter by yourself, forward it to friends encouraging them to write, or organize a local letter-writing campaign, your effort *will* be noticed. To make this even easier, following are sample House and Senate letters for you to use as models.

Want to organize a school-wide letter-writing campaign but have questions about how easy it is to do? Contact us – we helped organize the partial repeal campaign in 2000, and are happy to share our expertise.

SAMPLE HOUSE LETTER

You can use this as a model for your letter or email requesting that your representative co-sponsor H.R. 1246

Sample Letter to Representative Asking Him/Her to Co-Sponsor H.R. 1246:

Honorable [Sally Smith]
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative [Smith]:

As your constituent, I urge you to support H.R. 1246, the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, which would repeal the discriminatory “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” statute governing military service by lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans.

Only one law in the United States mandates firing someone because of his or her sexual orientation. That law is 10 U.S.C. 654, also known as “Don't Ask, Don't Tell.” It applies to all Americans serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including active duty, Reserve, and National Guard personnel. This means that over two million Americans serving in uniform today are bound by this discriminatory law; among them, an estimated 65,000 lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans in uniform live with the constant threat of career-ending discharge under “Don't Ask, Don't Tell.” This is no way to treat patriotic Americans who volunteer to serve our nation, particularly today, in its time of need.

“Don't Ask, Don't Tell” prevents qualified and highly capable Americans from serving in the Armed Forces. Over 10,000 people have been discharged since “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” became the law in 1993. This number includes dozens of Arabic and Farsi linguists, doctors, nurses, pilots, infantrymen, mechanics - over 800 people with skills for which the military currently suffers critical shortages. Women are discharged under “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” at twice the rate of their presence in the military, and the majority of people discharged under the policy are young - between the ages of 18 and 25 years old. “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” has ruined thousands of talented young people's military careers, and cost our nation well over \$200 million over the last decade.

As a law student, I personally know talented future lawyers who are denied the opportunity to serve this country in one of the Justice Advocate General Corps solely because of their sexual orientation. As a future member of a profession that seeks truth and justice in all matters, I am firmly opposed to this unfair, discriminatory law that promotes dishonesty and disserves the principles and security of our nation.

Please support H.R. 1246, the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, by joining over 116 of your colleagues as a co-sponsor, and work to end “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” now.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your Address (where you are registered to vote)]

SAMPLE SENATE LETTER

You can use this as a model for your letter or email requesting that your senator co-sponsor the introduction of a Senate companion bill to H.R. 1246.

Sample Letter to Senator Asking Him/Her to Co-Sponsor the Introduction of a Senate companion bill to H.R. 1246:

Honorable [Sally Smith]
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator [Smith]:

As your constituent, I am writing to urge you to co-sponsor the introduction of legislation in the United States Senate to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" statute governing military service by lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans.

Only one law in the United States mandates firing someone because of his or her sexual orientation. That law is 10 U.S.C. 654, also known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." It applies to all Americans serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including active duty, Reserve, and National Guard personnel. This means that over two million Americans serving in uniform today are bound by this discriminatory law; among them, an estimated 65,000 lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans in uniform live with the constant threat of career-ending discharge under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." This is no way to treat patriotic Americans who volunteer to serve our nation, particularly today, in its time of need.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" prevents qualified and highly capable Americans from serving in the Armed Forces. Over 10,000 people have been discharged since "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" became the law in 1993. This number includes dozens of Arabic and Farsi linguists, doctors, nurses, pilots, infantrymen, mechanics - over 800 people with skills for which the military currently suffers critical shortages. Women are discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" at twice the rate of their presence in the military, and the majority of people discharged under the policy are young - between the ages of 18 and 25 years old. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" has ruined thousands of talented young people's military careers, and cost our nation well over \$200 million over the last decade.

As a law student, I personally know talented future lawyers who are denied the opportunity to serve this country in one of the Justice Advocate General Corps solely because of their sexual orientation. As a future member of a profession that seeks truth and justice in all matters, I am firmly opposed to this unfair, discriminatory law that promotes dishonesty and disserves the principles and security of our nation.

The Military Readiness Enhancement Act (H.R. 1246) was introduced in the House of Representatives in February of 2007. It would repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and replace it with a non-discrimination law. I urge you to co-sponsor the introduction of similar legislation in the United States Senate.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your Address (where you are registered to vote)]



LAWYERS AS LOBBYISTS: A NATURAL FIT

Did your family always know you were going to be a lawyer because you were argumentative as a child? Did you broker truces between your siblings? Did you go to law school because you desire to speak for those who are unable to speak for themselves? If any of these describe you, then you are a lobbyist. We are all lobbyists, in fact, in our daily lives, when we speak in favor of things we want, and against things we don't. As a law student, however, you have the additional training and experience of crafting and executing a case. As such, you could not be better prepared for – or, perhaps, disposed toward – lobbying your political representatives. Like lawyering, lobbying is nothing more than presenting a case. You state the facts, make an argument, and support it with relevant authority. Following are tips on how to effectively and efficiently “make your case” in face-to-face conversations with your legislators or their staff members. Using your advocacy training in this setting can have a powerful impact on the political decisions of those who represent you.

PLANNING FOR YOUR VISIT

It's easier than you may think to visit your Senator or Representative (or, more likely, your Senator's or Representative's staff) in his or her in-state offices. Senators and staff meet with constituents every day and even have certain days every year set aside to meet with constituents when they are in their home states (known as "in-district" visits).

Requesting your meeting

These days, meetings usually need to be requested in writing. Faxes are preferred. The Task Force has provided a sample meeting request letter for your use. You will need to be persistent in following-up with the office until an actual meeting is confirmed. They are not trying to avoid you – they are simply overwhelmed with requests for meetings.

To find phone and fax numbers for your local Senator's office, visit www.senate.gov, or go to this link: http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm. Every Senator has a home page on that site. On each Senator's home page is information about each of their local offices. Contact the office that would be most convenient for you to visit. Likewise, you can find Representative's information at <http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW.shtml>.

Preparing for the Meeting

Before the meeting, you need to assemble the small team of people who will participate. Review the talking points provided for you in this packet, and practice the main points you will cover. Make copies of the document (**in this toolkit, p. 21**), "Vote For the Military Readiness Enhancement Act", which you should leave behind with staff.

Building a Team

As a general rule, no one visiting with an elected official should visit alone. Having two or more people provides multiple perspectives that may better educate the Senator or Representative about the necessity of repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Also, different team members may hear the officeholder differently and thus provide a richer and more accurate picture of how a meeting went and what follow-up may need to be undertaken.

Forward this packet to each member of your team, and have a brief phone call before the visit to make sure everyone knows the goals for the visit, and who will cover which points.

During the Meeting

Introduce yourself and note if you have a connection with your Senator or Representative. Always be brief and stay on point – your meeting time will be very limited. Whenever possible, refer to local veterans or servicemen and women as examples, and by all means, tell your own personal story! Tell them what they need to hear, not what you think you need to get off your chest. Listen carefully and answer their questions.

Avoid theoretical discussions of any kind, and also avoid long unrelated personal stories. If you don't know something, don't panic or offer up something about which you are unsure. Explain that you do not know the answer and offer to follow-up with the information. If you do offer this, make sure you do follow-up.

After the Meeting

Each member of the team should send a thank you note immediately. The Task Force has provided you with a sample thank you note in this packet. Also, follow-up as soon as possible with any promised additional information.

SAMPLE MEETING REQUEST LETTER

You can use this as a model for your letter requesting a meeting with your Senator or Representative. Many offices prefer to receive letters by fax requesting meetings. Go to www.senate.gov or www.house.gov and click on your Senator's or Representative's home page to find the fax number of your district office. Or, call the office and ask how to fax a letter to the appropriate scheduler.

June ___, 2007
Attn: (Name of Scheduler)
The Honorable (Name of Senator)
United States Senator
(Local Address)

Ms./Mr. (Name of Scheduler):

I am writing to request an appointment for myself and other constituents to meet with Senator _____ in (name of town where office is) to discuss the Military Readiness Enhancement Act (H.R. 1246) and repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

My preference would be for (date), but we can certainly be flexible for the Senator's schedule. If the Senator is not available in the next few weeks, we will happily meet with the appropriate staff.

Those in attendance at the meeting, depending on when it is scheduled for, will be:

(First person)	(Third person)
(Title and organization if relevant)	(Title and organization if relevant)
(Street Address)	(Street Address)
(City, State, ZIP)	(City, State, ZIP)

(Second person)	(Fourth person)
(Title and organization if relevant)	(Title and organization if relevant)
(Street Address)	(Street Address)
(City, State, ZIP)	(City, State, ZIP)

Please contact me to let me know when the Senator or (his/her) staff member might be available. I will follow up with you in a few days if I have not heard back.

Thank you,
(Your name)
(Your address)
(Your Phone number)

FACE-TO-FACE LOBBYING TIPS

- **Have a 15-Minute Action Plan.** You have 15 minutes—on average—to speak with a Member of Congress or a staffer. Be sure you know the first issue you will raise, the second, and the third. Using this plan, you'll be sure to discuss your most important issues before any possible interruption cuts the meeting short.
- **Speak Plainly (Without Acronyms).** Most grassroots lobbyists meet with staffers, not Members of Congress. Most staffers are in their early to mid-twenties, working in their first full-time job, and trying to understand as many as a dozen different issues. Whomever you meet with, chances are that person knows very little about your issues. So avoid using acronyms or jargon. The staffer and the Member may nod and grin at the right times, but may avoid showing their ignorance by asking you to define the acronym or term they don't understand.
- **Make a Connection.** Did you grow up in the same hometown as the Member or staffer? Graduate from the same college? Noting similarities in your background or any other areas of common interest—can be a great conversation starter. This technique is an effective way to break down the natural barrier that can exist when meeting with someone for the first time.
- **Don't Do All the Talking.** If the staffer or Member knows little about your issues, they usually are very happy to have you do all the talking. So be sure to occasionally ask questions—the kind that require more than a “yes” or “no” answer—to ensure your audience is receiving the message you are delivering.
- **State Clearly What You Want the Member to Do.** Many staffers and grassroots lobbyists can have an enjoy-able visit, but at the end the Member or staffer is often left asking, “What exactly do they want us to do?” Do you want a member to vote for or against a bill? Cosponsor a bill? Visit your business or government agency back home? Ask the question clearly and early in the conversation.
- **Follow-Up for Success.** To stand out from the dozens of grassroots and professional lobbyists who visit a congressional office in a typical week, be sure to follow up after your visit. Asking to meet with a Member or staffer again, back home, is just one way to extend the value. Mail a thank you letter immediately after your visit. Were questions asked that required information not available during the visit? Include the requested information in the letter. You can send other information, fact sheets, and new clips throughout the year. The keys are communicating several times a year, and delivering useful information. A single visit with a member of Congress or a staffer is only one small part of a good legislative campaign. Understand the limits of your 15 minutes of fame, and be sure to stay in touch.

SAMPLE THANK YOU LETTER

You can use this as a model for your letter thanking the legislator or staff member with whom you met about the Military Readiness Enhancement Act. Please send a thank you note as soon as possible after the meeting, preferably within one week. The letter should be edited to reflect the position of the Senator or Representative and the content of the meeting.

June ____, 2007
(Name of person with whom you met)
Office of United States Representative _____
(Local Address)

Dear (Name):

Thank you for meeting with me and my fellow constituents to discuss Representative (Name)'s position on the Military Readiness Enhancement Act (H.R. 1246) (or sponsoring similar legislation in the Senate).

(Add information here about the specific issues you discussed in your meeting.)

(If the Senator or staff has requested additional information, you should include it in or with the letter and state it or refer to it here.)

Thank you,
(Your name)
(Your address)
(Your Phone number)

VOTE FOR THE MILITARY READINESS ENHANCEMENT ACT (H.R. 1246)

How it Changes the Law

- Repeals the current law and policy known as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (10 USC §654) and Replaces “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” with a policy of non-discrimination in the military on the basis of sexual orientation.
- Supports regulations to maintain good order and discipline, provided the regulations are applied equally and without prejudice.

Improves Military Readiness

- Retains critical specialties. Almost 800 service members with skills deemed critical by the military have been discharged under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” according to a 2005 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report. The military is firing Arabic linguists and intelligence analysts necessary to fight the war on terrorism, just because of their sexual orientation. Doctors, nurses, pilots, truck drivers, military police, infantrymen and service members from virtually every specialty in the Armed Forces are being terminated under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”
- Saves the U.S. military and taxpayers millions of dollars. According to a GAO report, it has cost \$200 million to replace service members fired under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” GAO admits that this is an incomplete estimate; the true cost is even higher.
- Stops the discharges of qualified service members solely because of their sexual orientation. Over 10,000 service members have been discharged under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” MREA will provide desperately needed skilled personnel during this time of war, as many of the previously discharged personnel will be eligible to return to the military.
- Allows qualified, patriotic Americans to serve. MREA will expand the recruiting pool and encourage re-enlistment at a time when the Armed Forces are experiencing recruiting and retention shortfalls.

Supports All Our Troops

- Over 65,000 lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans are currently serving in our nation’s Armed Forces. Many of them are in harms way today and each is prepared to die for our country. Each may also be fired if his or her sexual orientation is discovered.
- There are over 1 million lesbian, gay and bisexual veterans in the U.S. based on 2000 census data. Veterans must be honored and respected. “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” dishonors these veterans and their service to our country.
- “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” is a law contrary to American values. Over two-thirds of Americans polled believe that gay Americans should be allowed to serve openly in our Armed Forces. Americans value honesty, integrity, patriotism, and selfless service over the prejudice of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

TALKING POINTS ON “DON’T ASK, DON’T TELL”

You can use these talking points in your face-to-face meeting with legislators or staffers.

- **Keeping good troops is good policy:**
 - As the recent Army IRR call ups show, U.S. forces can not afford to lose any troop who can do the job;
 - Between 63% - 79% of Americans polled support keeping good troops who are gay or lesbian;
 - Prominent Republicans support open service including former General and presidential nominee Barry Goldwater, and former CIA agent now current Congressman Rob Simmons.

- **No national security interest is served by spending millions of tax payer dollars to fire gay linguists and doctors who can do the job:**
 - Discrimination against gays cannot be more important than fighting and winning the war on terror;
 - Military readiness suffers when we lose 2-3 service members each day because of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell;”
 - Federal CIA, FBI, DIA and Secret Service agents all serve proudly as openly gay and lesbian personnel fighting the war on terrorism.

- **U.S. forces are already serving alongside openly gay allied troops:**
 - Twenty- five other nations already allow open service including Great Britain, Australia, Canada and Israel. Our troops serve side by side with these allied forces.
 - Nine nations allowing open service are serving side by side with American troops in Operation Iraqi Freedom;
 - Twelve nations allowing open service are serving alongside U.S. troops in Operation Enduring Freedom.

- **We thank our veterans, we don’t discriminate against them:**
 - Gay and lesbian veterans number over one million men and women according to the Urban Institute;
 - We don’t ask veterans if they’re straight or gay before we thank them for their service to our nation.

- **Things we know about Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell:**
 - 10,000 discharged service members over the past 11 years;
 - Based on the 2005 GAO report his discriminatory policy has cost tax payers at least 200 million dollars;
 - Every Department of Defense report on the issue has supported serving openly in the military;
 - Twenty- five other nations allow open service;
 - Between 63% - 79% of Americans support open service.

TOP 10 REASONS WHY REPEALING “DON’T ASK, DON’T TELL” IMPROVES THE U.S. MILITARY

1. Banning Gays Hurts Military Readiness. “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (DADT) undermines military preparedness by denying the services trained personnel critical to our nation’s defense. The Pentagon has discharged 10,000 service members for being gay in the past decade, the equivalent of two Army brigades. DADT requires gay service members to lie as a condition of service, eroding the bonds of trust necessary for unit cohesion.

2. There are One Million Gay Veterans; Sixty-Five Thousand Gays Currently Serving.

3. Repealing “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Will Reduce Anti-Gay and Sexual Harassment. Laws that discriminate foster harassment and violence. In March 2000, the DOD Inspector General questioned 75,000 service members and found that 80% experienced or witnessed anti-gay harassment, leading the Pentagon to state that anti-gay harassment undermines unit cohesion. Five percent reported witnessing or experiencing anti-gay physical assaults.

4. Repealing “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Will Reduce Race and Gender-Based Discrimination. Women have been consistently discharged at a rate nearly twice their presence in the service. Women continue to be disproportionately impacted by “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” due to gender bias and lesbian baiting. Further, African-American women are discharged under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” at three times the rate they serve in the military. Although Black women make up less than one percent of servicemembers, they comprise 3.3% of those discharged under the policy.

5. Pentagon and Government Studies Support Gays in the Military. Published government studies support gays serving in the military. An exhaustive 1993 Rand Report concluded that the U.S. military could lift the gay ban without detriment to readiness. The PERSEREC Reports (1988, 1989) concluded that (1) there was no empirical evidence to support the gay ban, and (2) there was no empirical data to suggest that gays differed from heterosexuals on any performance measure.

6. American’s Allies Support Gays in the Military. Twenty-five nations allow gays in the military, including Israel, the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada. Studies have concluded that lifting the ban in those countries have had no effect on military readiness or unit cohesion. American troops are serving with openly gay troops from 12 countries in Operation Enduring Freedom and 9 countries in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

7. Pentagon and Service Leaders Support Gays in the Military. In 1993, General Barry Goldwater said that “You don’t have to be straight, to shoot straight” when he spoke in support of lifting the ban on gays serving in the military. General Wesley Clark, Former Navy Secretary and Senator John Chaffee, Assistant Secretaries of Defense Edward Dorn and Lawrence Korb, all support gays serving in the United States military.

8. The Public Supports Gays in the Military. Between 63% - 79% of Americans polled answered that gays should be allowed to serve openly in the military, up from 57% in 1992.

9. National Security Agencies Do Not Discriminate Against Gays. The CIA, DIA, FBI and NSA do not discriminate based on sexual orientation. In a post-September 11 world, these organizations’ contributions to the security of our country are paramount. Except for the military, the federal government does not discriminate based in employment on sexual orientation.

10. Taxpayers Spend Approximately \$26 Million a Year to Train Replacements for Those Discharged as Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual. Taxpayers have spent approximately one quarter of a billion dollars training replacements for discharged gay personnel since the passage of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”



START A REVOLUTION: SPONSOR A RESOLUTION!

Several cities, organizations, schools and even one state (California) have passed resolutions calling up their congressional delegations to support the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” These resolutions will undoubtedly influence legislators’ decisions to support this legislation. You can work with your faculty and administration to have your school pass a similar resolution supporting H.R. 1246 in the House and the introduction of a companion bill in the Senate. In addition, you can work with your local and state elected representatives to pass a city or state level resolution supporting the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” Following are school, state and city level resolutions that actually were passed for you to use a model in your jurisdiction.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND RESOLUTION

On April 28, 2005 the Faculty Senate of the University of Rhode Island adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS

The University of Rhode Island is committed to furthering, to the fullest possible extent, the principles of full tolerance and respect for all individuals both on its own campus and In the state and nation beyond; and

WHEREAS

The University states, in its legally binding equal opportunity policy, that "The University of Rhode Island prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, color, creed, national origin, handicap, or sexual orientation, and discrimination against disabled and Vietnam Era veterans, in the recruitment, admission, or treatment of students . . . "; and

WHEREAS

There are questions and urgent concerns about our commitment to our principles when our policies are violated and not enforced with respect to sexual orientation, specifically the use of the office and services of Career Services on the URI campus by military recruiters and interviewers who must follow the so-called "Don't ask, don't tell" policy affecting gays in the military; yet

WHEREAS

The University is obliged to follow applicable Federal laws in this matter, putting us in conflict with our avowed principles;

THEREFORE

We urge vehemently that the President of the University inform the Rhode Island Congressional delegation of our opposition to the "Don't ask, don't tell" policy and to work with them and other Federal lawmakers to eliminate this policy in favor of one which does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

CALIFORNIA STATE RESOLUTION

BILL NUMBER: SJR 11

INTRODUCED BY Senators Kehoe, Kuehl, Migden, and Romero
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Goldberg, Jones, Laird, and Leno)

APRIL 21, 2005

Relative to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military policy.

SJR 11, as introduced, Kehoe. Military: "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. This measure would urge the Congress and the President of the United States to adopt the Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2005 (H.R. 1059), that institutes a policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation, and to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

Fiscal committee: no.

WHEREAS, Since the 1994 codification into law by the United States Congress, and by the signature of the President, the policy now known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass" (National Defense Authorization Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-160)), has led to the discharge of a great number of lesbian and gay service members, thus ending their careers and burdening them with a lifelong stigma; and

WHEREAS, The capacity of the Armed Forces of the United States to carry out its missions, like the Global War on Terror, is hindered when competent and qualified individuals are involuntarily discharged from those forces; and

WHEREAS, The Armed Forces of the United States have been forced to retain Reserve and National Guard service members on active duty past standard deployment lengths in order to carry out its missions during the Global War on Terror; and

WHEREAS, The ability of the Armed Forces to recruit and retain the best and brightest Americans is hindered by excluding a section of the population solely because of sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, Lesbian and gay service members have served honorably throughout United States history and continue to serve with distinction on active duty in the Global War on Terror, including in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, These men and women have achieved military honors, decorations, and promotions to the highest ranks of their respective services for their valor and service to the people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, America's allies in the war on terror, like the United Kingdom, Australia, and Israel, all allow lesbian and gay service members to serve openly; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Central Intelligence Agency, and other federal departments handling national security allow their lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender personnel to serve openly; and

WHEREAS, A February 2005 Government Accountability Office report shows that more than 9,488 service members have been discharged under the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, including

at least 757 service members in "critical occupations," such as counterintelligence experts, at a cost to taxpayers of more than \$190 million; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense reported that 209 language specialists have been discharged from the military under the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, including 54 Arabic and 9 Farsi translators, vitally important positions to intelligence gathering and in critical shortage; and

WHEREAS, Evidence from a study conducted by the Center for the Study Of Sexual Minorities in the Military suggests that the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy increases gay troops' stress levels, lowers their morale, impairs their ability to form trusting bonds with their peers, restricts their access to medical care, psychological services and religious consultations, and limits their ability to advance professionally and their willingness to join and remain in the services; and

WHEREAS, Every Department of Defense authorized study has shown that there is no correlation between sexual orientation and unit cohesion in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, The majority of American citizens support keeping trained and skilled openly gay and lesbian service members in the military; and

WHEREAS, The United States military's readiness to protect and defend our nation is severely compromised because of the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that is arbitrarily enforced by commanders whose personal beliefs may influence their disciplinary action; and

WHEREAS, Discharges under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" are historically fewer when troop strength is low, as in times of war, which denotes the tacit recognition by the military that lesbian and gay service members are fit and capable of military service, thereby further illustrating the arbitrary enforcement of this policy; and

WHEREAS, California has 26 military bases which are home to tens of thousands of military personnel and their families, and, according to a 2004 Urban Institute study, an estimated 137,000 lesbian and gay veterans live in California; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature and courts of the State of California have extended protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity that affirm the equality under the law of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender citizens in order to prevent invidious discrimination; and

WHEREAS, In 2004 the California Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, legislation that protects nonfederally recognized personnel in the California State Militia from the threat of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"; and

WHEREAS, Military readiness is enhanced when every qualified, capable American, regardless of sexual orientation, is welcomed into our Armed Forces and has their talents utilized in the best interest of our national security; now, therefore be it Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully urge the President and the Congress of the United States to adopt the Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2005 (H.R. 1059) to end the discriminatory federal policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"; and be it further Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to each Senator and Representative in the Congress of the United States, and to the presiding officer of each house of each state legislature of the several states.

WEST HOLLYWOOD RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 05-_____

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF S.J.R. 11

Senate Joint Resolution 11 before the Calif. State Senate

Introduced by Christine Kehoe (Dem, San Diego)

(KEHOE, KUEHL, MIGDEN, ROMERO)

THAT URGES CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT TO ADOPT A FEDERAL POLICY OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN THE MILITARY

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City of West Hollywood strongly supports equal treatment for all individuals;

WHEREAS, the current federal policy of the US military known as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Harass” is discriminatory against lesbian and gay service members;

WHEREAS, S.J.R. 11 urges Congress and the President to adopt a non-discriminatory federal policy for the military, known as the Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2005;

WHEREAS, this act would protect lesbian and gay service members from being discharged solely based on their sexual orientation;

WHEREAS, the majority of Americans support keeping trained and skilled openly lesbian and gay service members in the military;

WHEREAS, Lesbian and gay service members serve honorably in current military operations, such as the Global War on Terror and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, as well as having served throughout the history of the U.S and deserve our gratitude and respect;

WHEREAS, the City of West Hollywood strongly supports legislation that increases rights for gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of West Hollywood supports S.J.R. 11 and urges Congress and the President to adopt a non-discriminatory policy in the military by adopting the Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2005.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Contacts:

Kara Suffredini, Esq.

State Legislative Director
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force
1325 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 393-5177 (phone)
(202) 393-2241 (fax)
ksuffredini@thetaskforce.org

Sharon Alexander, Esq.

Deputy Director for Policy
Servicemembers Legal Defense Network
P.O. Box 65301
Washington, D.C. 20035
(202) 328-3244 (phone)
(202) 797-1635 (fax)
sea@sldn.org

Other Activities (Protests, Petitions, etc.):

Comprehensive Protest & Amelioration Materials:

<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/solomon/smaterials.html>

Ask Congress to “Lift the Ban”:

http://gal.org/campaign/house_cosponsor_0407

Join the Coalition for Equality at Boston College in Their Letter-Writing Campaign:

<http://www.bc.edu/clubs/cfe/>

Other Advocacy Materials & Sources:

Servicemembers Legal Defense Network:

<http://www.sldn.org>

Most Recent Pew Poll on “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”:

<http://people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=273> (60% support open service; up from 54% in 1994)

Current List of Congressional Co-sponsors:

http://gal.org/campaign/house_cosponsor_0407

Human Rights Campaign’s Congressional Scorecard:

http://www.hrc.org/Content/NavigationMenu/HRC/Get_Informed/Congress_and_Scorecard/Index.htm

Congressional E-mails (and other contact information):

<http://www.house.gov/writerep/> (House);

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm (Senate)