



Center for Military Readiness



Promoting high standards and sound priorities for our military men and women.

For Immediate Release

September 20, 2010

Senate Must Block Repeal of Homosexuals-in-Military Law on Tuesday

As CMR warned months ago, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has scheduled a vote on legislation to repeal the 1993 law stating that homosexuals are not eligible to serve in the military.

This legislation, which poses a serious threat to military morale and readiness, is included in the **Defense Authorization** (not Appropriations) bill. The same bill also includes unprecedented language authorizing abortions in all military medical facilities, both overseas and in the United States. In addition, Senator Reid has indicated his intent to attach the DREAM Act, an amnesty for the children of illegal aliens, as an amendment to the bill.

Sen. Reid's addition of these controversial, non-germane measures demonstrates his pursuit of political agendas and election-year politics at the expense of our military men and women. The entire Defense Authorization bill demands opposition based on Reid's high-handed political maneuvering alone.

Sen. Reid has set the initial vote on the bill (the motion to proceed) for **Tuesday, September 21, at 2:15 PM.** With 41 votes, the Senate can stop Reid's headlong assault on our servicemen and women.

Forty-one votes will protect the current law and defeat the "Repeal Deal" legislation, which would revoke the current law with "delayed implementation." If Sen. McCain's objection is sustained, the opposition's narrow chances will diminish and possibly be ended for good.

The determined push for homosexuals in the military is coming only weeks before the midterm elections. It is the result of an intense lobbying campaign of well-funded lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered (**LGBT**) activists during the August recess.

The activist groups are claiming that political promises that President Barack Obama made to them are more important than the expert advice of **1,167** retired **Flag and General Officers for the Military.** In 2009 their formal statement to the President and Congress helped to stall the opposition with a clear, unequivocal affirmation that repeal

of the 1993 law (usually mislabeled “**Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell**”) could break the All-Volunteer Force.

The four military service chiefs of the **Army, Navy, Air Force** and **Marines** have asked Congress not to vote for this legislation before the Pentagon releases a report on what repeal would mean. The opinions of active duty military men and women have not been heard, and Congress should heed the professional advice of our military leadership before taking any legislative action, as they have requested.

These ten points summarize the main arguments in the current debate:

- **Ten Reasons to Oppose the Proposed “LGBT Law” for the Military**

In July, a survey of 1,000 likely voters nationwide, conducted by the **Military Culture Coalition**, (MCC) found that **57%** of respondents saw the current push for repeal as motivated more by President Obama’s politics than by principle. The MCC Survey project, coordinated by CMR, has had a sobering effect on many legislators in this election year.

In spite of all the pressure from the **LGBT Left**, several major news organizations have reported that Sen. Reid is not confident that he has 60 votes to overcome McCain’s objection to a motion to proceed toward passage of the controversial bill. Congress should reject Reid’s cynical exploitation of an important defense policy bill to score election-year political points.

To schedule an interview on this subject with CMR President Elaine Donnelly, call CMR Executive Director Tommy Sears at 202/347-5333.

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