

May 21, 2010



The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Boehner:

The National Military Family Association has long been an advocate for improving the quality of life of our military family members, who have sacrificed greatly in support of our Nation. While our Association does not have a position on the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy, we are pleased that Secretary Gates has appointed a working group charged to look at the true views and attitudes of our service members and their families if that policy is repealed. We believe inclusion of service members and their families in the process is imperative and that the review process must be allowed to run its course.

Our Association agrees with Secretary Gates and Admiral Mullen that the Department of Defense must be allowed, prior to any legislative action, the opportunity to complete the assessment of the impact of such a policy change, and most importantly, develop an attentive comprehensive implementation plan. Our service members and their families deserve no less.

We join with Secretary Gates and Admiral Mullen in opposing any legislation that seeks to change this policy prior to completion of the assessment process. Should you have any questions please contact Kathleen Moakler, Government Relations Director, at (703)931-6632 or Kmoakler@MilitaryFamily.org.

The National Military Family Association is the only national organization whose sole focus is the military family and whose goal is to influence the development and implementation of policies that will improve the lives of the families of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For over 40 years, its staff and volunteers, comprised mostly of military family members, have built a reputation for being the leading experts on military family issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Wessel Raezer".

Joyce Wessel Raezer
Executive Director