

THE CAMPAIGN FOR MILITARY SERVICE

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SENATE SUPPORTERS

These are some, but not all, of the United States Senators who have publicly supported President Clinton's effort to rescind the ban on gays, lesbians and bisexuals in the military. They have expressed their support in news articles, op-eds, Congressional Record statements, press releases, and constituent letters.

Daniel Akaka (D-HI) "The current ban on gays in the military is based upon stereotypes and prejudice.... The present policy is discriminatory and advances no end but to deprive our country of talented and dedicated individuals."

"Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation violates the very constitutional and philosophical fabric of American respect for privacy and individual freedoms." States News Service, January 29, 1993.

"The current ban on gays serving in the U.S. military is based upon stereotypes and prejudice and wastes millions of American taxpayers' dollars. Studies by the Pentagon itself offered nothing to substantiate it.... The present policy is discriminatory and advances no end but to deprive our country of talented and dedicated individuals...."

"It is the same lamentable situation we still too-often encounter with respect to women and racial minorities. However, much more grievous than the stubbornness of discrimination would be a lack of national courage to continue the fight to eliminate its many faces. Regardless of the form it takes, we cannot ignore it; we cannot condone it; and we cannot 'finesse' it.

"Discrimination on the basis of an individual's sexual orientation violates the very Constitutional and philosophical fabric of American respect for privacy and individual freedoms." Press Release, January 29, 1993.

138 Congressional Record S 13982, September 8, 1992 - co-sponsored Amendment #3047 to the Defense Authorization Act to lift the ban on gays in the military.

Congressional Record, July 23, 1992 (legislative day) - co-sponsored S. 3084 prohibiting discrimination by the Armed Forces.

Congressional Record S, November 23, 1991 - co-sponsored S. Res. 236 to end discrimination against gays in the military.

David Boren (D-OK) "As Americans we have always tried to live together in a broad community with understanding even for those with whom we do not agree and whose lifestyle might be different from our own.... It is extremely important...that there be strong rules and regulations against sexual harassment which we actually enforce both in cases of homosexual or heterosexual harassment." Constituent Letter.

Barbara Boxer (D-CA) "I believe that anyone who is willing to serve, fight or die for their country should be allowed to do so. Many gay men and lesbian women have already served in the military with distinction. Many have already died for their country.

"Everyone who serves in the military should be held to common standards of performance and excellence. Those persons able to meet such standards of service should not be kept from serving." Gannett News Service, January 29, 1993.

"I personally believe that the gay ban continues the policy of deceit. It forces honest men and women to lie about a very fundamental question." 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

"I support President Clinton's plan to repeal the ban on homosexuals in the military. I...believe it is time we end this legacy of discrimination in the armed services. We have seen discrimination before in relation to women and minorities.... Exclusion from military service based on sexual orientation, rather than the ability to serve, is wrong and should be ended." Press Release, January 26, 1993.

"We, the Democratic women of the United States Senate, strongly support your efforts to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians serving in the military.... Forty-five years ago, another President, Harry S. Truman, had the courage to end racial discrimination in the military. In 1976, our military academies opened their doors to the women of our nation. Both of these actions were met with a firestorm of criticism and concern. Both recognized that people are people, regardless of race or gender. In the same way, your action recognizes the humanity of gay men and lesbians." Letter to President Clinton, January 28, 1993.

Bill Bradley (D-NJ) "There is no legitimate reason for the military to ban gays." Gannett News Service, January 29, 1993.

"President Clinton's decision to end discrimination against gays in the military is a positive step. I don't know a good reason for the current policy. I am hopeful that additional action will be taken to remove the existing ban." Press Release, January 28, 1993.

John Breaux (D-LA) "I think we're almost together, between Congressman Frank and Sam Nunn.... We can reach an agreement. I predict that's what will happen. And I can support that." Reuter Transcript Report, June 6, 1993.

Ben Nighthorse Campbell (D-CO) "...having personally felt the sting of discrimination, I do not believe a person should be judged, censured, or excluded because of who he or she is.

Rather, each of us has to accept responsibility for our actions, independent of our skin color, religion or sexual orientation. Conduct, not status, should be the subject of scrutiny and regulation.

"As military commanders freely acknowledge, thousands of homosexuals, even tens of thousands, have previously served and now serve their country ably and honorably in all branches of the military. These individuals have displayed the same acts of heroism and sacrifice for their fellow soldiers and country as heterosexual soldiers have. Many have records of distinction that anyone would envy." Op-ed, Glenwood Post, March 13, 1993

"I do not support this ban and have co-sponsored legislation carefully written to simply prohibit discrimination by the Armed Forces on the basis of sexual orientation yet which expressly reaffirms and reasserts existing military regulations prohibiting sexual misconduct by any person in the Armed Forces." Constituent Letter, May 19, 1993.

John Chafee (R-RI) "I am one who strongly believes that any problems attendant to allowing homosexuals to serve in the military can be minimized. I'm certain there will be no noticeable deterioration in the quality or readiness level of the armed forces of the United States. As we all know, there are already many homosexuals in the military. My experience has been that when a discussion has taken place on a matter of import in the Navy, and a decision has been reached, that those in command follow the decision." 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

William Cohen (R-ME) "The argument has been that it will have a negative impact on morale, readiness, unit cohesion, and general fighting capability.... These arguments may no longer be valid or are less persuasive. Perhaps they were marshaled in the days of the dark ages and the time has come to allow sunlight to cast an illuminating eye upon unfounded bias or bigotry....

"I hope we can conduct an open-minded inquiry rather than react on a knee-jerk basis to how many phone calls and letters we are receiving. They are important, but we need to debate this on a dispassionate basis; otherwise we will find ourselves simply arguing on the basis of bigotry, prejudice and bias." 139 Congressional Record S 752, January 27, 1993.

"The President and I have something else in common. We feel we must root out discrimination wherever we find it. We both know that our society has historically and, to a great extent, continues to discriminate based upon race, sex, age and religion. We both believe discrimination based on these features is intolerable and unconstitutional." 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

"We as a society must strive to eliminate discrimination and bigotry whenever possible." Constituent letter, March 19, 1993.

Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY) "Last Tuesday, I stated a basic but important principle on the floor of the U.S. Senate, namely that no government has the right to discriminate against any of its own citizens. That's why I support allowing gays in the military. It's just that simple.

"The private behavior of individuals should not be the issue. Rather, the men and women of the armed forces should be judged by how well they perform their jobs." Op-ed, Newsday, February 2, 1993

Tom Daschle (D-SD) "I support the President's effort to move forward on this issue in a way that will respect individual rights without impairing the effectiveness, cohesion and high standards of conduct characteristic of our Armed Forces." Constituent Letter, June 30, 1993.

"The real issue is whether the United States is prepared to follow the lead of many other countries and recognize that fact while dealing with all the related practical questions appropriately." Press Release, January 27, 1993.

Dennis DeConcini (D-AZ) "Unless a negative impact can be proved, DeConcini says, gays 'deserve to have their civil liberties protected.'" Arizona Republic, March 9, 1993.

"I want to know whether gay servicemen in the military will jeopardize the (Pentagon's) mission.... I can't imagine that case could be made." States News Service, January 29, 1993.

Christopher Dodd (D-CT) "If you look at the graves of Arlington National Cemetery, it doesn't say [whether] someone is black; it doesn't say whether someone is homosexual." Hartford Courant, January 28, 1993.

"Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., stands firmly in favor of lifting the ban, and believes that any kind of discrimination is offensive," said Dodd spokesperson Marvin Fast. Dodd has said that anyone that is qualified for a job should be eligible for the job." State News Service, January 28, 1993.

"...the fundamental principle behind President Clinton's efforts is the right of all Americans to have the opportunity to serve their country based on their abilities....

"...the basic question remains one of individual civil rights.... The real issue is removing the discriminatory policies which prevent them from remaining on active duty if questioned about their sexual orientation." Constituent Letter.

Byron Dorgan (D-ND) Quoting from a constituent letter: "I'm not a Black, but I know some terrific Americans who are.... I'm not a woman. But I know some terrific Americans who are.... The military has found out they're ok, contrary to what many thought some years ago.... I'm not a homosexual.... But I know some terrific Americans who are.... The only difference in these three discriminations, is that you can know at a glance who is Black or a woman. And you may never know who is a homosexual because most of them do not flaunt it or misuse it

in public." Congressional Record, March 4, 1993

"There's too much discrimination and too much prejudice in our country today. This kind of debate unfortunately tends to perpetuate much of that." Constituent Letter.

Dave Durenberger (R-MN) "What we are addressing today is not the simple question of whether we approve or disapprove of the sexual orientation of certain individuals. We are discussing whether we have the right to deny some of these individuals the right to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces because of that status.

"It is a fundamental principle of the American government that we must not discriminate against an individual for having a certain status --a certain gender, religion, sex, race, disability, or age....

"We also need to understand that in recent years, we have repudiated laws that discriminate against individuals in employment or public accommodation on the basis of their status -- on the basis of stereotypes that relegate every individual to a pigeonhole. We have repudiated the spurious logic that goes, 'All Polish people are stupid. I Dave, Durenberger, am Polish. Therefore, I am stupid. Therefore, do not hire me....

"It would be truly perverse to draw the conclusion from the Tailhook scandal that heterosexual men or women ought to be excluded from the military. It would seem to me that if this were the sole objection, the appropriate solution is not to exclude people from the armed services, but to have a code of conduct and enforce it." 139 Congressional Record S 1087

James Exon (D-NE) "Exon said in an interview that he is trying to work out a broader compromise that would admit declared gays so long as they do not indulge in sexual behavior on military bases.... What I say is that we should have no overt sexual acts by either homosexuals or heterosexuals." Reuters, May 12, 1993.

Russell Feingold (D-WI) "But others like Sen. Russell Feingold (D-Wis.)...say they favor an end to the current ban on gays in the military." State News Service, January 26, 1993.

Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) "Until 1948, the armed forces were segregated. It took President Truman's forceful stand to end the years of bias against African Americans that had prevailed. Now almost half a century later, we stand at a similar juncture in history and our hopes for equality lie with President Clinton. I am optimistic that we will enter a new era where everyone - without regard to sexual orientation - will have an opportunity to serve our country in the armed forces." Gannett News Service, January 29, 1993.

"The United States military is filled with brave men and women who risk their lives to defend their country. Competence, courage and willingness to serve one's country - not sexual orientation - should be the criteria for those wishing to enlist." op-ed, Washington Times, January 31, 1993, quoting letter sent to President Clinton.

"The Department of Defense's justifications for its policy banning gays and lesbians from service are based on cultural myths and false stereotypes. These justifications are baseless and very similar to the reasons offered to keep the military racially segregated in the 1940's. The simple question is: Should everyone have the opportunity to serve our country in the armed forces without fear of discrimination, without blind prejudice? I answer that question with a strong 'yes.'" 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

"We, the Democratic women of the United States Senate, strongly support your efforts to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians serving in the military.... Forty-five years ago, another President, Harry S. Truman, had the courage to end racial discrimination in the military. In 1976, our military academies opened their doors to the women of our nation. Both of these actions were met with a firestorm of criticism and concern. Both recognized that people are people, regardless of race or gender. In the same way, your action recognizes the humanity of gay men and lesbians." Letter to President Clinton, January 28, 1993.

John Glenn (D-OH) "I don't have any doubt that the policy will be changed." Press Release, January 29, 1993.

"Good order and discipline is a phrase we have heard a lot of lately. I believe that good order and discipline also means zero tolerance for acts of hatred and prejudice." Press Release, February 2, 1993.

Tom Harkin (D-IA) 138 Congressional Record S 13982, September 8, 1992 - co-sponsored Amendment #3047 to the Defense Authorization Act to lift the ban on gays in the military.

Congressional Record, July 23, 1992 (legislative day) - co-sponsored S. 3084 prohibiting discrimination by the Armed Forces.

Daniel Inouye (D-HI) "Thousands of homosexuals have, over the years, conducted themselves in accordance with their military training and orders, and have served their country with distinction, dignity and loyalty.... I would hope that...the armed forces understand that physical or verbal harassment directed at homosexuals would not be tolerated." States News Service, January 29, 1993.

Congressional Record S, November 23, 1991 - co-sponsored S. Res. 236 to end discrimination against gays in the military.

Edward Kennedy (D-MA) "I want to reaffirm my support for President Clinton's leadership in seeking to break down the barriers of discrimination against gays and lesbians in the military.

"This struggle is the latest chapter in the great unfinished business of America, which truly is liberty and justice for all. This nation was founded on the principles of equality and opportunity. If we do not end discrimination wherever it exists in our society, then America

is not America.

"The purpose of our armed forces is not simply to defend a piece of geography, but to protect a set of ideas and ideals. A military that denies those ideals defeats its own most basic purpose.

"While we cannot transform hearts and minds overnight, if we have learned anything from the long experience, it is that changing policy is an essential step in breaking down barriers, changing attitudes, and building a better nation.

"Condoning prejudice is an appalling means to unit cohesion. Whatever name discrimination takes, it ought to be exposed and rooted out." Senate Armed Services Committee Hearings, March 31, 1993.

"Whatever name discrimination takes, it ought to be exposed and rooted out. Change is never easy. But this change is just another way to stand for freedom. And I believe our women and men in uniform are equal to this battle." Boston Globe, May 8, 1993.

138 Congressional Record S 13982, September 8, 1992 - co-sponsored Amendment #3047 to the Defense Authorization Act to lift the ban on gays in the military.

Congressional Record, July 23, 1992 (legislative day) - co-sponsored S. 3084 prohibiting discrimination by the Armed Forces.

Bob Kerrey (D-NE) "I think the policy change is a good one.... I think ending the ban won't be that traumatic, and the military ought to make it work." Omaha World Herald, January 26, 1993.

"As you know, President Clinton has stated his intention to remove the current ban on gays serving in the military. I support this proposal in principle, as I believe that those who wish to serve their country should not be prevented from doing so on the basis of factors that do not affect their ability to perform the tasks required of them." Constituent Letter, June 29, 1993.

John Kerry (D-MA) "Discrimination against individuals based on personal characteristics is destructive and inconsistent with the principles on which this nation was established." Constituent Letter, May 26, 1993.

"The issue of discrimination against gays in the military...is important because it involves a fundamental question of right versus wrong.... The result is that we find ourselves put in the position of either embracing or rejecting what is a fundamental form of discrimination - a dislike of someone or something else because it does not conform to our sense of how we want to be or how we think everyone ought to be. That is not what this country is supposed to be about....

"We are supposed to be a society that does not drive people to run away from themselves or from their history or who they are. We are supposed to be a society which allow as human beings to live to the fullest capacity of who they may want to be or who they are, defined by themselves, as long as they do not break the law, break the rules, intrude on other people.

"Now, that is conduct, and conduct is what should matter in making judgments about what should or should not be allowed within the military. Status, the actual fact of being gay, and only being gay without attendant conduct that might offend somebody, cannot be sufficient in the United States of America to disallow somebody the choice, if they are qualified in every other regard, of serving their Nation.

"Lifting the ban on gays in the military is simply one of those things that we have to do if we are going to continue to make progress toward becoming a more just and honorable society, not because we embrace or like the life style, but because that is the right thing to do in a diverse, pluralistic society. To do less would be to institutionalize and legitimize homophobia. It would be to separate our Armed Forces in an artificial and false way from the very Nation that they are charged with defending. To do less would be to abandon tolerance, and to ratify intolerance as a guiding principle of national policy. It would be to be forever unfaithful, literally semper infedelis, to what this country is all about." 139 Congressional Record, January 27, 1993

139 Congressional Record S 489, January 21, 1993. Co-sponsor of S-71 to ban discrimination in military on basis of sexual orientation.

Congressional Record, July 23, 1992 (legislative day) - co-sponsored S. 3084 prohibiting discrimination by the Armed Forces.

Herb Kohl (D-WI) "...I am hopeful that a policy can be developed which will recognize both the requirements of military service and the right of military personnel to have a private life when not on duty." February 24, 1993.

Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) "I support President Clinton's new plan to lift the ban on gays in the military." Press Release, January 28, 1993. "I'm against discrimination." Gannett News Service, January 29, 1993.

Carl Levin (D-MI) "...I believe the ban should be lifted...." US Newswire, January 29, 1993.

"I share your belief that we must be firm in our resolve to fight discrimination, and I remain committed to the goal of ensuring that the civil rights of all Americans are protected.... I believe that it should be possible to lift the ban against homosexuals serving in the military without harm to our national security." Constituent Letter, March 17, 1993.

Joe Lieberman (D-CT) "In our society, which values tolerance and does not accept unfair discrimination, I believe the burden of proof is on those who argue that the ban on homosexuality should continue...." Constituent Letter, May 25, 1993.

Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH) "The Pentagon's prohibition of gay men and lesbians serving in the military is completely outdated. It is senseless and it is cruel.... It is a policy based on fear and ignorance.... It is discrimination against a distinct group of individuals who repeatedly and throughout history have shown that they are every bit as capable, hardworking, brave, and patriotic as their heterosexual counterparts." 139 Congressional record S 489, January 21, 1993. Co-sponsor of S-71 to ban discrimination in military on basis of sexual orientation.

Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) "We, the Democratic women of the United States Senate, strongly support your efforts to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians serving in the military.... Forty-five years ago, another President, Harry S. Truman, had the courage to end racial discrimination in the military. In 1976, our military academies opened their doors to the women of our nation. Both of these actions were met with a firestorm of criticism and concern. Both recognized that people are people, regardless of race or gender. In the same way, your action recognizes the humanity of gay men and lesbians." Letter to President Clinton, January 28, 1993.

George Mitchell (D-ME) "I think he should do precisely what he said he's going to do. He's going to rescind the ban...." CNN Transcripts, Larry King Live, December 9, 1992.

"In every society there are some who fear and resist change.... I say to my colleagues, let's lift our sights and our hopes and our votes above appeals to division, above appeals to the worst that's in our people, above all the discrimination and prejudice and the anxiety and the fear that is being created in this debate." Congressional Record S 1337, February 4, 1993.

Carol Moseley-Braun (D-IL) "I am writing you to reiterate my strong support for your commitment to develop a policy that will allow gay and lesbian Americans to serve with pride and dignity in our armed services. Extending to gay and lesbian Americans the right to serve their country is a matter of fundamental justice and fairness. I believe that all of us gain when we move towards a society where Americans are judged on the basis of their conduct rather than their status.

"...there is no evidence that the private, consensual sexual activity or private speech of homosexual servicemembers is incompatible with military service." Letter to President Clinton, June 24, 1993.

"...competence, capability and performance, not sexual orientation' should determine whether a person holds a job either in the military or in the civilian workplace." Gannett News Service, January 27, 1993.

"As we listen to those who tell us that gays and lesbians will destroy the military, the

simple truth is this debate is not about military capability at all. It is about irrational fears and prejudices. It is about civil rights and leadership in a democratic society." 139 Congressional Record 1262.

"The issue today...is simple. Do we move forward as a society recognizing the talents and dignity of all of our citizens? Or do we allow our differences to pit one American against the other and take this country down a painful road we have traveled before?" 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

"And Senators in opposition to President Truman's directive insisted that they were in no way opposed to basic civil rights for all. They simply felt duty-bound...to defer to the Pentagon's expert judgment on the issue....

"While the discrimination faced by African Americans often takes different forms from that faced by gay and lesbian Americans, this much we can say with absolute certainty: the military has no more rational basis for banning gays and lesbians in 1993 than it did for segregating African Americans in 1943....

"Gay and lesbian Americans love their country as much as other Americans. And like any other Americans, they deserve the choice to be judged on their conduct, character and capabilities -- not persecuted because of their status alone." 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

"We, the Democratic women of the United States Senate, strongly support your efforts to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians serving in the military.... Forty-five years ago, another President, Harry S. Truman, had the courage to end racial discrimination in the military. In 1976, our military academies opened their doors to the women of our nation. Both of these actions were met with a firestorm of criticism and concern. Both recognized that people are people, regardless of race or gender. In the same way, your action recognizes the humanity of gay men and lesbians." Letter to President Clinton, January 28, 1993.

Patty Murray (D-WA) 139 Congressional record S 489, January 21, 1993. Co-sponsor of S-71 to ban discrimination in military on basis of sexual orientation.

"There are thousands of gay men and lesbians in the service today. All this does is recognize that fact and allow them to be there without any change. I think that's only fair." Gannett News Service, January 28, 1993.

"We, the Democratic women of the United States Senate, strongly support your efforts to end discrimination against gay men and lesbians serving in the military.... Forty-five years ago, another President, Harry S. Truman, had the courage to end racial discrimination in the military. In 1976, our military academies opened their doors to the women of our nation. Both of these actions were met with a firestorm of criticism and concern. Both recognized that people are people, regardless of race or gender. In the same way, your action recognizes the

humanity of gay men and lesbians." Letter to President Clinton, January 28, 1993.

Bob Packwood (D-OR) "Throughout my career in the Senate I have been a strong supporter of civil rights. The liberties of all Americans are most threatened by those who want to compel conformity of thought and deed. Conversely, our liberties are most secured by a decent respect for diversity....

"I am opposed to discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation or any other factor. The ban of homosexual women and men from the military goes against my philosophy of civil rights." Constituent Letter.

Claiborne Pell (D-RI) "Sen. Claiborne Pell disclosed on Friday the special stake he has in the burgeoning congressional debate over gays in the U.S. government and military services. 'My daughter, Julia, is president of the Rhode Island Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights,' Pell told the Senate. 'I would not want to see her barred from a government job because of her orientation.'" Associated Press, May 21, 1993.

Harry Reid (D-NV) "Millions of taxpayer dollars are being wasted on litigation involving homosexuals in the military. This wasteful spending on courts and lawyers must stop." States News Service, December 8, 1992.

"...I share the President's views that the most important factor in this issue should be the enforcement of strict standards of conduct." Constituent Letter, April 15, 1993.

Donald Riegle (D-MI) "...We can't entertain the notion that people ought to be denied service in our government...by virtue of some test that one or another person might apply, based upon their personal orientation or values." Associated Press, May 21, 1993.

"All persons should be allowed to serve in the military whose conduct and performance are proper." Press Release, January 29, 1993.

Charles Robb (D-VA) "...it's time for those of us who believe, as a matter of conscience, that the current ban ought to be lifted to stand up and be counted....

"Yet I am increasingly troubled by the fact that continuing the ban based solely on status discriminates against men and women who are otherwise as fit for service as those currently permitted to serve. I don't believe we can continue to exclude from service (on either constitutional or moral grounds) otherwise qualified citizens who merely acknowledge honestly a sexual orientation different from the majority of our citizens, but want to serve their country and are willing to obey all rules and regulations regarding conduct when they are on duty or in uniform.

"But in the final analysis, discrimination for any reason is wrong. The opportunity to serve one's country should be based on performance and merit." Richmond Times, June 14,

1993.

"The military, in my judgment, should not bar individuals from service based on who they are; rather, it should be concerned with what they do. Like racial or ethnic origin or gender, sexual preference has no bearing on how great a contribution an individual can make to the United States." Letter to Powell, March 4, 1992

"...morale is in the heart of each serviceperson. The threat to morale comes not from the orientation of a few, but the closed minds of the many. President Truman recognized that when he ordered the services to be integrated by race despite the racial animosity of many then in the service....

"But I ask we not let fear govern our actions. While we may not perfectly understand what motivates individual sexuality, we cannot allow that lack of understanding to block deserving patriotic Americans from service." Congressional Record, February 4, 1993

John Rockefeller (D-WV) "...model conduct should be expected from everyone who serves in the armed services, be they homosexuals or heterosexuals.... I believe any form of discrimination is wrong." Constituent Letter.

Paul Sarbanes (D-MD) "It is my intention to continue to support the President in efforts to make necessary revisions in current DOD policy...." Constituent Letter, May 13, 1993.

Paul Simon (D-IL) "Before I entered military intelligence, in Army basic training, we had a fairly good idea who was gay and who was not. But people were judged on their conduct, not on their genes. And that seems to be a good rule to follow.

"The opposition President Bill Clinton faces on this issue is strikingly similar to the opposition that Harry Truman faced when he integrated the armed forces racially. Now we wonder what all the fuss was about. My guess is that history will repeat itself." op-ed, Marion Daily Republic, March 9, 1993.

Arlen Specter (R-PA) "I am opposed to discrimination based on sexual orientation...." Constituent Letter, February 8, 1993.

Paul Wellstone (D-MN) 139 Congressional record S 489, January 21, 1993. Co-sponsor of S-71 to ban discrimination in military on basis of sexual orientation. 138 Congressional Record S 13982, September 8, 1992 - co-sponsored Amendment #3047 to the Defense Authorization Act to lift the ban on gays in the military.

"Like the now unthinkable ban on African-Americans that once existed in the military, this policy discriminates against personnel without regard to their performance or even their behavior." Star Tribune, September 19, 1992.

"I would like to talk about what I think is at issue in the most fundamental sense. That has to do with whether or not gay and lesbian persons in the United States of America will be accorded equal protection against discrimination, discrimination based upon who they are.... I want to make it clear as an American Jew that for all too many years Jewish people were treated as if they were less than fully human.... I want to make it clear...that for all too many years people of color were treated as if they were less than fully human." 139 Congressional Record S 1262.

Congressional Record, July 23, 1992 (legislative day) - co-sponsored S. 3084 prohibiting discrimination by the Armed Forces.

Harris Wofford (D-PA) "After this effort to weed out gays in the military has been put behind us a few years from now, people will say, 'Why did they ever try to do it?' Everybody knows the effort to weed out gays in the military only touches a tiny fraction of gays in the military. It makes for hypocrisy. It's an unnecessary form of discrimination" States News Service, December 5, 1992.

"Wofford has said he believes the military should replace its ban on gays with a strong code of discipline to punish inappropriate sexual conduct be it heterosexual or homosexual." State News Service, January 29, 1993.