



News from  
**Councilmember Todd Gloria**

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City of San Diego ▪ District Three

**MEDIA RELEASE**

For immediate release:  
June 23, 2009

**San Diego Supports Repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”**

*SAN DIEGO, CA (June 23, 2009)* – City Councilmember Todd Gloria applauded his colleagues for their unanimous vote supporting the repeal of the federal “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” law at today’s City Council meeting. (Councilmember Tony Young was absent.)

**“I am proud that San Diego has once again stood up against discrimination,” said Councilmember Todd Gloria. “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’ is the only law in our country that requires people to be dishonest about their personal lives or be fired. This discriminatory policy hurts military readiness and national security, and is just wrong.”**

“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” took effect 15 years ago. Since then, more than 12,500 people have been discharged from military service because of their sexual orientation, including 265 discharged since President Barack Obama’s inauguration. According to a Blue Ribbon Commission Report, the cost to replace and train service members discharged under this law between 1994 and 2003 exceeded \$363.8 million. In spite of this, some lesbian, gay and bisexual service members are proudly serving our country in uniform. Some are still harassed and serve with the fear of losing their chosen careers.

The City of San Diego regularly takes positions on federal and state legislation. Prior to today’s City Council action, the City’s Human Relations Commission and the Committee on Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations advocated for the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

A federal bill formally eliminating “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, this afternoon, the California State Senate Veterans Affairs Committee is scheduled to consider a resolution sponsored by Senator Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego) calling for the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.”

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