

SAMPLE LETTER TO MILITARY/CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES

(Letterhead Stationary)

DATE:

TO: General or Honorable XXXXX

FROM: The (Name of Denomination)

SUBJECT: Potential removal of the Military “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (DADT) Policy

1. Concern: The (member denomination) is gravely concerned over the potential removal of the current DADT policy that has essentially in principle, though not specifically named as such, governed the service of homosexual individuals in our military for much of its history. The removal of this current ban may go so far as to force the resignation of our currently serving chaplains from the military as well as the service of military members from this denomination.

2. Consequences: The removal of the ban sets up the very real potential of the following ramifications of repealing DADT:

- Chaplains will be open to the charge of discrimination or command reprimand if they preach or teach in accordance with the passages in the Bible which directly speak of the sin of homosexual practice.
- Bibles in military chapels and on military bases will be under the threat of excision of all passages which speak very directly to the sin of homosexual practice. Whether it will be under the guise of “hate speech” or speech contrary to the policy of the Department of Defense, the effort will be made soon after the removal of the ban.
- Marriage retreats conducted by chaplains intended to strengthen traditional marriage will have to include homosexual couples which may violate chaplains’ faith tenets and negatively impact the voluntary participation of married heterosexual couples.
- Homosexual couples will seek union ceremonies or marriages, which are in violation of the beliefs and ordination vows of a large percentage of military chaplains, not just those from this denomination. Refusal will invite the charge of discrimination and command reprimand.
- The “free exercise” and free speech rights of chaplains and military members may be abrogated as Equal Opportunity policies, “hate speech” laws, or other legalities trump the First Amendment.

3. Appeal: For the above and many other reasons affecting chaplains and military members in the ranks we humbly appeal to you to not repeal DADT. We plead this for the good of the nation, for the good of the chaplains who serve the nation on behalf of their church, for the good of the military members from this church who serve in our armed services, and for the protection of the constitutional principle of the free exercise of religion.

Sincerely,

Clerk, (Member Denomination)

Encl: General Assembly Resolution passed on June XX , 2010