DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC 20330

MAY 26 2010

HQ USAF/CC
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

The Honorable Buck P. McKeon
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McKeon

The President has clearly articulated his intent for the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DA/DT) law to be repealed, and should this law change, the Air Force will implement statute and policy faithfully. However, as I testified to you and the HASC at the AF Posture hearing on 23 February 2010, my position remains that DOD should conduct a review that carefully investigates and evaluates the facts and circumstances, the potential implications, the possible complications, and potential mitigations to repealing this law.

I believe it is important, a matter of keeping faith with those currently serving in the Armed Forces, that the Secretary of Defense commissioned review be completed before there is any legislation to repeal the DA/DT law. Such action allows me to provide the best military advice to the President, and sends an important signal to our Airmen and their families that their opinion matters. To do otherwise, in my view, would be presumptive and would reflect an intent to act before all relevant factors are assessed, digested and understood.

Sincerely

NORTON A. SCHWARTZ
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

cc:
Chairman Skelton