

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 20, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We were pleased by your reaffirmation of the policy that employment in the federal service should not be influenced by the sexual orientation of the employee in April 2004. We were glad that you agreed that "long-standing federal policy prohibits discrimination against federal employees based on sexual orientation" and that you "expect federal agencies to enforce this policy and to ensure that all federal employees are protected from unfair discrimination at work."

Unfortunately, Scott Bloch, whom you appointed to the Office of Special Counsel, and who therefore has a major role in enforcing this policy, has recently announced his refusal to carry it out. In addition to your reaffirmation to this policy, section 2302(b)(10) of Title 5 states that federal agencies are prohibited from discriminating against employees based on off duty conduct that does not affect job performance. This provision has been interpreted by every Administration, from that of President Carter, through President Clinton, to make it illegal to discriminate based on sexual orientation. Before Mr. Bloch became Special Counsel, the Office of Special Counsel enforced this prohibition.

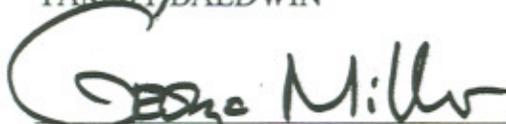
We write to urge you to take whatever steps you can to see that Mr. Bloch complies with the policy you have promulgated –and which was supported by a large majority of the House of Representatives in 1998 when a challenge to it was presented. We are ready to work with you in helping assure that your policy is followed.

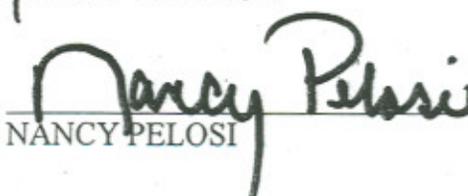

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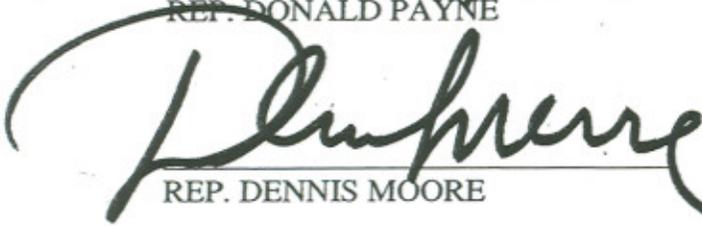

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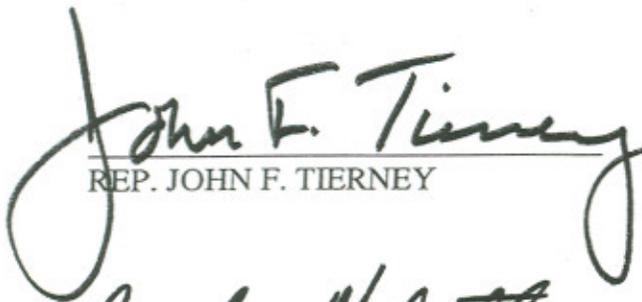
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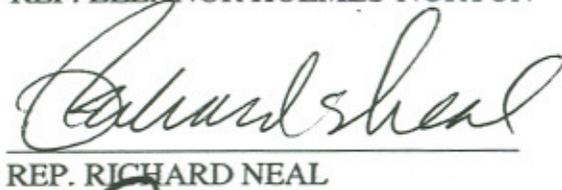
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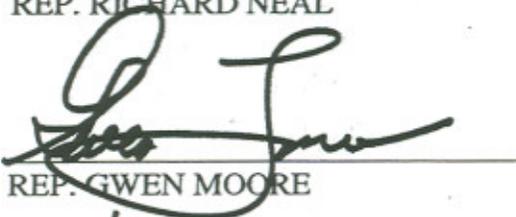
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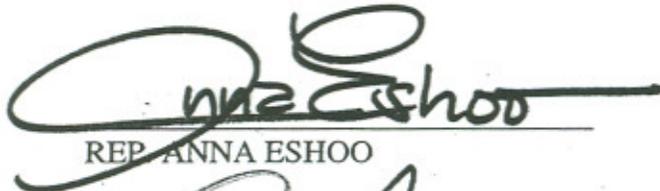

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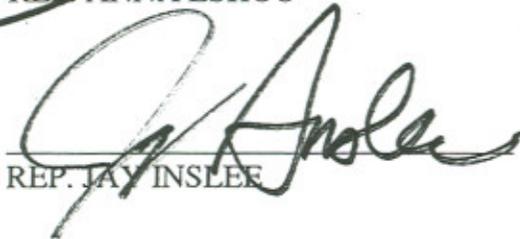

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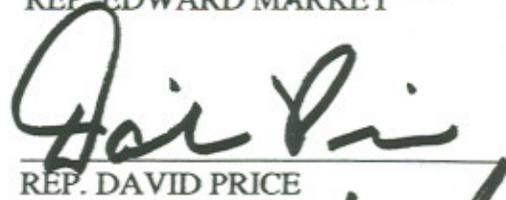

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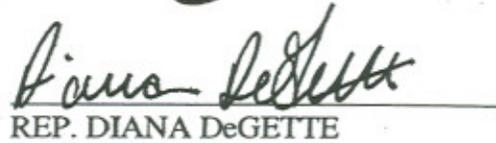

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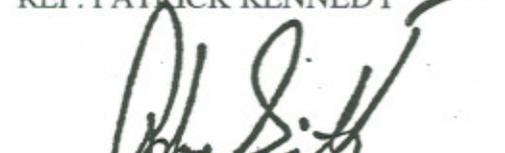

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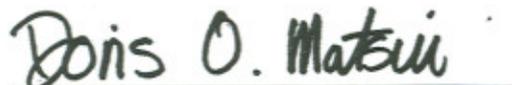

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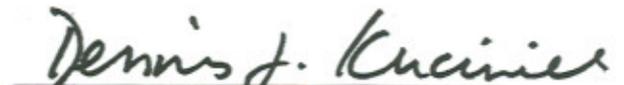

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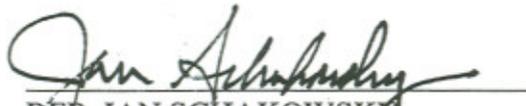

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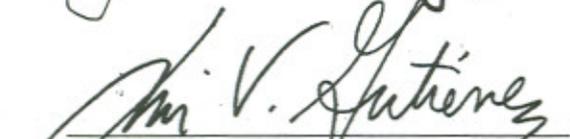

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