

exclusion of openly gay and lesbian individuals. The purpose was to ensure that each law school community would communicate its inclusive and non-discriminatory values to all members of the community. This compromise, while deemed the best solution within the legal context in which the AALS found itself, is inherently and deeply troublesome for two reasons. University-based law schools implicitly sanction discrimination based on sexual orientation when they include military recruiters rather than reject the federal funds so important to their academic programs. At the same time, attempts made by individual law schools and the AALS to ensure that the full law school community understands why a discriminatory employer has been permitted access to the schools' career services have understandably (but wrongly) been interpreted as indicative of the "anti-military" attitudes of law schools, their leaders, and the AALS. We emphasize that the AALS is supportive of our military and recognizes that as the military has become more inclusive it has become stronger both internally and in the public's perception. We depend on the many young Americans whose courage and commitment enables them to join the armed services in order to actively participate in the defense of the nation. It is the nobility of that service and the inability of American citizens who are openly gay or lesbian to serve that has prompted the AALS to argue consistently for inclusion of these citizens in military service. The AALS is committed to both non-discrimination and a strong military, with access to opportunities in the military for all students at our member schools, regardless of their sexual orientation.

The current law places the democratic ideal that individuals should be judged as individuals and not based upon group-based characteristics in a secondary status to funding higher education programs. As such, it inherently damages our democracy. Repealing the current law and extending non-discrimination principles to include sexual orientation will support and strengthen our democratic values and strengthen the military.

ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES OF APPLYING NON-DISCRIMINATION PRINCIPLES TO MILITARY SERVICE

Repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is certain to ensure a larger pool of citizens who seek to serve their country in the military, a much-needed result particularly during this time of heavy on-going demands for those who are now serving. Furthermore, the extension of non-discrimination principles to the service of individuals regardless of their sexual orientation will generate broader support for our military branches. Over time, as military personnel work together toward common purposes in service of the nation, greater understanding and respect are likely to be furthered in our broader culture. A diverse society depends on its ability to develop qualities of tolerance and over-arching shared values; American democracy and the opportunities it has exemplified are grounded in the concept of a multi-faceted diversity, protected by guarantees of individual liberties.

CONCLUSION

The AALS urges Congress to act soon to remove the restrictions on military service that now exist, extending the opportunity of military service without regard to the sexual orientation of those who seek to volunteer for this important service to our nation.

Sincerely,

SUSAN WESTERBERG PRAGER.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM WHITAKER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of William Whitaker for his work with the formerly incarcerated and his service to the City of New York.

Mr. Whitaker was born in Richmond, Virginia, and moved to Brooklyn, New York at four years of age. His family resided in Brooklyn's Bedford Stuyvesant area for the next 42 years. After completing his high school education, Mr. Whitaker received an Associate degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice where he focused on paralegal research and mythology. He then attended Marta Due College and received a Bachelor of Arts in Human Services. Mr. Whitaker is also a credentialed Prevention Specialist with the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse. Mr. Whitaker has been credentialed with the state of New York for 15 years.

Mr. Whitaker is also certified with Cornell University as a Family Development Credential Trainer. In 2009, Mr. Whitaker received his international certification reciprocity with the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

Mr. Whitaker's career began in 1990 with the Fortune Society. He held several titles at this agency, including Chief Librarian, Counselor/Case Manager, Senior Peer Trainer, Public Health Educator, and Senior Outreach Coordinator. Mr. Whitaker also served as the Senior Prevention Specialist at Brooklyn's Canarsie Aware Treatment Center.

Mr. Whitaker began working with the New York City Commission on Human Rights in 2001 as the Senior Advocate for the HIV prison project. He then began to serve as Special Consultant and Advisor to the Commissioner. Also during this time Mr. Whitaker was serving as Consultant and Special Advisor to Princeton University's research project concerning employment discrimination against minority jobseekers and the formerly incarcerated in New York City.

Mr. Whitaker served as Consultant and Trainer to the City of New York Department of Health Office of Correction AIDS Prevention, stationed at Rikers Island Jail.

Mr. Whitaker served the City of New York as a Senior Liaison for the New York City Department of Homeless Services for three years working with homeless families and single males and females to resolve conflicts and disputes with staff and other service providers. He was also responsible for contacting and following up with other government officials regarding complaints.

Mr. Whitaker then served as African American Community Liaison to the office of the Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz. He served throughout the Borough of Brooklyn, representing Marty's office in all affairs.

Mr. Whitaker has returned to the New York City Commission on Human Rights where he continues to serve the people of New York as a Human Rights Specialist, working on special projects regarding the formally incarcerated and other areas concerning Human Rights laws and educating the general public.

Mr. Whitaker is also currently authoring a new complete and comprehensive resource guide with other staff at the Commission on Human Rights. This booklet is for the formerly incarcerated returning to New York City. The title of this new booklet is "Turning the Game Around". Mr. Whitaker also provides ongoing workshops and presentations at agencies throughout the five Boroughs of New York City.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of William Whitaker.

IN SUPPORT OF H. RES. 1383
HONORING DR. LARRY CASE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the recently passed House Resolution 1383 honoring Dr. Larry Case for his 26 years of service as National FFA Advisor.

On January 1, 2011, Dr. Case will retire after 26 years as National FFA Advisor at the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Case, a Missouri native and former high school agricultural education instructor, earned his bachelor's degree, master's degree, and doctorate from the University of Missouri and has since served in numerous positions including CEO and chairman of the board of the National FFA organization, chairman of the board for the National Postsecondary Student Organization, and national advisor to the National Young Farmer Education Association.

Dr. Case has made a significant personal impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of present and former FFA members. During his tenure as National FFA Advisor, the organization saw tremendous growth in both membership and educational innovation. As an advisor, executive officer, and chairman of the board of directors of the National FFA Organization, Dr. Case has been a national leader in secondary, postsecondary, and adult instructional programs relating to agriculture.

As a Missouri farmer I have a special appreciation for Dr. Larry Case's commitment to agriculture and his exemplary efforts to highlight the importance of agricultural education in our state and nation.

I congratulate Dr. Case on his outstanding service to agriculture and to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR T.
ALLEN LEGARE, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, State Senator T. Allen Legare, Jr. was an inspiration to me growing up in historic Charleston, South Carolina, as a gentleman promoting job creation with the State Development Board and the State Ports Authority. My attending Washington and Lee University was coordinated by him, who had attended W&L, with my mother, Wray Graves Wilson, who attended nearby Hollins College in Virginia.