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Bob Filner

Congressman Filner calls on Gates, Shinseki to revisit "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" discharges

Congressman Bob Filner joined several of his colleagues in the House of Representatives to call on Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki to revisit discharge classifications of service members dismissed under recently repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

"These brave men and women put their life on the line for this country, and they deserve the benefits they earned, just like any other veteran," Filner said.

While some service members discharged under "Don't Ask Don't Tell" were given honorable discharges, some received "general" or "other than honorable" discharge characterizations. Others discharged under the prior ban received "dishonorable" discharges. The different discharge characterizations have implications on service members' ability to access benefits.♥