

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4305

September 17, 2010

Dear Friends:

On Tuesday, September 21, the United States Senate will hold a procedural vote on whether to begin debate on the 2011 Defense Authorization bill. I plan to vote against this motion, and Texans deserve to understand why.

In most years, the Defense Authorization bill should win the approval of every Senator. The bill funds our troops serving in harm's way and provides resources for military operations worldwide. But this year, Senate Democrats have attached language that represents a blatant attempt to score political points just weeks before an election.

First, the bill includes language that would require military hospitals to provide abortion on demand. I have a well established record of defending the sanctity of human life. This was one of the reasons I opposed the health care reform legislation pushed through the Senate on Christmas Eve last year.

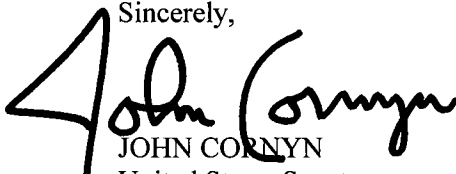
Second, the bill would repeal current federal law relating to homosexuals serving in the U.S. military, commonly known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Here also my record is clear. I support the current policy, and I believe that any debate on this issue is premature until the Department of Defense completes its formal review of the likely impact of such a major policy change on military readiness.

Finally, Senator Reid has indicated that the bill will be amended to include some version of the DREAM Act. While no specific language has been made available, I have great sympathy for those who would likely benefit from it. As I wrote to LULAC President Margaret Moran earlier this year, I would welcome the opportunity to support a version of the DREAM Act that addresses several substantive concerns in the context of a broader bill to fix our broken immigration system. I have attached that letter for those interested in reading further.

The motives of Senate Democrats in including these provisions are clear. They need supporters of abortion and gay rights to turn out for them this November. They believe a last-minute scramble to push forward the DREAM Act will outweigh two years of inaction and broken promises on immigration reform. They hope to dissuade voters from rendering their judgment on their failed economic strategy as well as their reckless mismanagement of our nation's finances.

I believe that these tactics are disrespectful to millions of Americans, especially our troops and those of us committed to credible immigration reform. I hope that you understand my reasons for my vote on Tuesday. I thank you for your continued friendship, and for the honor of serving as your Senator.

Sincerely,



JOHN CORNYN
United States Senate

Enclosures: 1

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4305

July 22, 2010

Ms. Margaret Moran
National President
League of United Latin American Citizens
P.O. Box 100931
San Antonio, TX 78201

Dear Margaret:

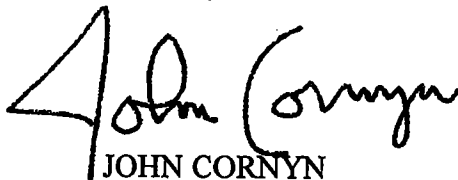
It was a pleasure to speak with you and to congratulate you, as a fellow Texan and a friend, on your election as National President of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). I know you will advance the views and positions of Latinos at every level of society. I look forward to working with LULAC on issues that affect the Hispanic community. I especially look forward to our continued dialogue about the DREAM Act and credible immigration reform.

As I mentioned in our conversation, I have great sympathy for students brought to the United States at a very young age who have no moral culpability in being in this country in violation of our laws. I have listened to many stories about how our broken immigration system has failed them, and discussed this issue with many Hispanic leaders in Texas and across the nation.

To expand opportunities for these students, I voted for the DREAM Act in the Judiciary Committee in 2003. However, I also made clear that to earn my support for final passage, a successful DREAM Act must include a requirement that students complete a degree from an accredited U.S. institution of higher education. A successful bill must also close loopholes in the original legislation that could be exploited by criminals who have already shown a disregard for the rule of law, as well as remove barriers that hinder law enforcement's ability to detect and apprehend them. Further, the legislation must allow law enforcement to access application information to prevent fraud. I would welcome the opportunity to support a version of the DREAM Act that addresses these concerns as part of overall immigration reform.

Credible immigration reform remains a priority for me, as I know it does for LULAC. I look forward to working with you to help make this issue a priority once again for the White House and Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Cornyn". The signature is stylized, with the first letter "J" being large and the last name "Cornyn" written in a cursive script.

JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator