Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell Repeal Act: 1994

Background

1993: Public Law 103-160 (10 U.S.C. §654), signed November 30, 1993, mandates "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT), a new policy for all individuals on military service. The policy emerged as a compromise after President Clinton encountered opposition to his campaign promise to end the military ban on homosexuals.

1993: "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) became the official United States policy on military service by gay, lesbian, and bisexual individuals under Department of Defense Directive 1304.26 December 21, 1993.

1994 to 2011: "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) is the official policy from February 28, 1994, until September 20, 2011. DADT prohibited military personnel from discriminating against closeted homosexual or bisexual service members while barring openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual persons from military service. Over 13,000 service members were discharged under DADT before its repeal.

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