

SLDN in New Mexico!

*Servicemembers Legal Defense Network,
American Veterans for Equal Rights, and Pride at Work
work to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell in New Mexico*



Pictured above from left to right are Steve Loomis, President of the Bataan Chapter (NM) of American Veterans for Equal Rights, who was discharged under DADT. Bill Woldman outreach representative for Senator Tom Udall (NM). And Michael Scott an

SLDN member who was discharged under the DADT policy. Not pictured (because he's taking the picture!) is Bob Polejes national VP of Pride at Work. Thanks to Beverly McMullen President of Machinists lodge 1635 for her email support.

Alliances Work!

The coordination between veteran and GLBTQ groups really paid off for this visit. Instead of having a "turf battle" local members of SLDN and AVER worked together to show Senator Udalls' staff why the repeal of DADT is so important. Pride at Work the official group representing GLBTQ labor union members sent a knowledgeable and experienced staffer to help guide the process. All of this was done within a few weeks and off the cuff. For anyone out there who has been an "email activist" and/or donated money to the cause of repeal but have been afraid to take the next step.....Now is the time! Support is out there, we need to act now! The enemies of equality and freedom are ramping up their efforts to continue DADT.

SENATOR TOM UDALL SUPPORTS REPEAL THIS YEAR!

Senator Udall's outreach representative Bill Woldman reiterated that Senator Tom Udall (NM) supports repeal of DADT, and he expects repeal to occur late this year. The Senate should take up the Defense Bill, which includes the repeal of DADT, by the end of September according to Mr. Woldman. Since the entire New Mexico Congressional delegation has committed to repeal DADT we

encouraged the Senator to talk to Senators that have not made a commitment to vote for repeal. We also raised the concern that after the Defense Department's review of DADT is completed in December, some may try to use stalling tactics to halt or slow the implementation of full repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. We specifically wanted to thank Elizabeth Shirey for her leadership and help.