

Resolution of the Students on the Solomon Amendment

**** The University of Michigan Law School ****

Whereas, we the students of the University of Michigan Law School firmly stand against invidious discrimination in any form; and

Whereas, every accredited law school in the nation has complied with the Solomon Amendment and at the same time is violating their own non-discrimination policies by allowing an employer that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation to recruit on campus; and

Whereas, we the students of the University of Michigan Law School deeply regret this compliance and are in sympathy with all students on this campus and across the nation that this has personally hurt; and

Whereas, the Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights (FAIR), an alliance of law schools and law school faculty bodies, has filed suit against the Department of Defense questioning the constitutionality of the Solomon Amendment; and

Whereas, we resolve to act on the force of conscience—respectfully—to secure the support of our faculty, our administration, our University President, our Board of Regents, our representatives in the United States Congress, and the United States military, to carefully reconsider the Solomon amendment and how it affects our lives; and

Whereas, we the students of the University of Michigan Law School fully support the soldiers of the United States military; and

Whereas, out of respect for our troops and the integrity of this nation's freedoms we resolve to act today so that all may serve the United States if they choose;

Therefore, let it be resolved that:

Support and Compliance

- I. The students of the University of Michigan Law School deeply regret that the school must violate its non-discrimination policy with regard to protection against employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and we recognize this hurts us all.
- II. We recommend that the administration and faculty actively and publicly discuss the possibilities of joining the FAIR litigation, and in the alternative implement a coherent and sensitive policy of basic compliance with the Solomon Amendment.
- III. We invite Dean Caminker to explain the Law School's decisions on Solomon to the Law School Student Senate and the student body at-large in an open session.

Toward Institutional Change

- I. We respectfully recommend that the Law School's own pre-Solomon carve-out for military recruitment be removed.
- II. We suggest that the Law School administration and faculty consider hosting a forum on the Solomon Amendment and Don't Ask Don't Tell with representatives of diverse views including the United States military to sit on a panel in order to raise consciousness and further campus discussion of a defining issue of our generation.

Toward National Change

- I. We respectfully urge the United States Congress to revisit the Solomon Amendment and the Don't Ask Don't Tell Policy in light of the current international emergency and the dramatic and powerful social, legal, and religious changes regarding sexuality that have occurred in this country in the last year, let alone the last decade.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Surdukowski
Law School Student Senator

Seneca Theno
Law School Student Senator

Aaron O'Donnell
Law School Student Senator