



Dear Friends,

I want to take this opportunity to share with you some of the work that I've been doing recently in the U.S. Congress.

### ***End the Wars***



*Rep. Nadler speaking out against further war funding at a press conference for the Congressional Out of Afghanistan Caucus. [Watch the video.](#)*

Last week, I again voted against continued funding for the war in Afghanistan. I believe that every additional dollar spent and every further life lost in pursuit of elusive stability in Afghanistan is a tragic waste. It is unlikely that the U.S. and our allies will be able to end the 35-year Afghan civil war, nor is it our responsibility to do so. Continued U.S. involvement only further fuels the rising insurgency and keeps us bogged down amidst a long-standing conflict between feuding tribes, classes, and regions.

Clearly, it is time to rethink our dangerous policy in Afghanistan. That is why, in addition to voting against funding for the war, I have co-sponsored a bill introduced by Rep. McGovern that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a firm exit strategy for U.S. military forces in Afghanistan. We cannot continue our failed policy in Afghanistan. Let's support our troops by bringing them home and let's do it now.

### ***Repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"***

I was proud to recently vote to repeal the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. This absurd policy is a stain on our national conscience and tarnishes the march towards equality for all Americans, which is why I **voted against** the policy when it was first introduced 17 years ago. Then, as now, supporters of the policy trotted out the tired canard that allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly would undermine troop morale. Then, as now, this argument flies in the face of the available evidence and is only useful as a mask for simple prejudice.

Ending "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" will help ensure that all service members, regardless of sexual orientation, can enjoy the freedoms for which they so selflessly fight.

### ***A Historic Vote for the Victims of 9/11***

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*Rep. Nadler urges support for the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act. [Watch the video.](#)*

Last Thursday, after years of fighting, the *9/11 Health and Compensation Act* was finally brought to a vote in the House. The bill garnered an impressive 255 votes – well over 50% of the House. Unfortunately, the bill needed 2/3 of the vote to pass without amendment and the vote broke down sharply on party lines with 92% of the Democrats supporting the bill and only 12 Republicans voting for it.

Regardless of the outcome of this one vote, we still have a moral responsibility to assist those who bear the wounds from this national tragedy. I will continue to advocate on the behalf of the victims of 9/11 and work to see that the *9/11 Health and Compensation Act* is promptly brought back to the floor and passed into law

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerrold Nadler".

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