

Washington D.C.- Congressman Steve King (R-IA) today issued the following statement after United States District Judge Virginia Phillips issued a worldwide injunction preventing enforcement of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy. Phillips' decision overturns a law enacted by Congress, and signed by President Clinton, which prohibits openly homosexual individuals from serving in the military. Unless the Department of Justice appeals the decision, Judge Phillips' unilateral decision will stand as the final word on the matter.

"Judges in this country are out of control, whether they sit on the federal bench or on Iowa's Supreme Court," said King. "Today's ruling by Judge Phillips is just the latest in a line of decisions in which judges have implemented their own policy preferences at the expense of the Constitution, American citizens, and the Rule of Law."

"In Iowa, the seven members of Iowa's Supreme Court overturned the state's law recognizing marriages as an institution only between one male and one female. Earlier this year, a federal judge single-handedly invalidated California's voter-enacted Proposition 8, which banned same-sex marriage within that state. Today, a different federal judge unilaterally issued a worldwide injunction that prevents the military from enforcing the Congressionally passed 'don't ask, don't tell' law."

"These decisions share a common trait: in order to advance the politically correct 'gay-rights' agenda, the rogue judges involved ignored both the expressed will of the people and of the legislative bodies that have examined the issue. In Iowa the Supreme Court even bragged that their reading of the Iowa constitution included 'rights' that 'were at one time unimagined.' Judges should not be rewarded for flagrant disregard of the Rule of Law and the American people should respond by pursuing avenues which would result in the removal of lawless judges from the state and federal bench."

#