



## American Foreign Service Association

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December 7, 2011

The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
2206 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Ros-Lehtinen:

The American Foreign Service Association, the representative of some 28,000 active and retired Foreign Service employees, is pleased to inform you that we support H.R. 3485, the Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act of 2011. We are proud to say that we have made efforts to ensure equal treatment in the foreign affairs agencies.

As a representative of government employees in the Department of State, United States Agency for International Development, Foreign Commercial Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, and International Broadcasting Bureau, we are no strangers to diversity. We have and continue to work closely with Gays and Lesbians in Foreign Affairs Agencies (GLIFAA), as well as other groups in the foreign affairs agencies associated with gender, race, veterans, and disability. GLIFAA has made significant strides in creating greater awareness about these issues.

As you may know, we have supported this effort in the past and we look forward to the bill being passed. Please keep us informed on the bill's status and let us know what we can do to further support its passage.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Johnson  
President, AFSA