



December 20, 2013

Dear Representative,

The undersigned civil liberties, human rights, and religious organizations would like to express our appreciation for your support for the improved Guantanamo overseas transfer provisions included in the FY14 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that just passed the Senate. Approval of these provisions represents Congress' first legislation passed to facilitate the ultimate closure of the facility. We particularly appreciate the leadership of House Armed Services Committee Ranking Member Adam Smith for shepherding these provisions to passage.

As detention operations at Guantanamo enter their thirteenth year, we appreciate the renewed commitment of the president and the support of Congress for taking new steps to close the Guantanamo prison. Though work remains even after these provisions in particular become law, we are confident that these are important steps toward closing the Guantanamo prison and toward ending the broader practice of indefinite detention without charge or trial.

We are grateful for your support of the new overseas transfer provisions in the FY14 NDAA and look forward to continued engagement with your office on these important issues.

Sincerely,

American Civil Liberties Union

Amnesty International USA

Appeal for Justice

Arab American Institute

Center for Constitutional Rights

Center for International Policy

Center for National Security Studies

Center for Victims of Torture

The Constitution Project

Council on American-Islamic Relations

Defending Dissent Foundation

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Human Rights First

Human Rights Watch

International Justice Network

Just Foreign Policy

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

National Religious Campaign Against Torture

National Security Network

Open Society Policy Center

Win Without War