



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

May 13, 2009

Co-Sponsor the *Keep Terrorists Out of America Act*  
(H.R. 2294)

Dear GOP Colleague,

**Terrorists intent on harming the United States and our allies should not be imported into American communities by our own government.** This fundamental principle is at the heart of legislation I introduced last week along with Ranking Members John McHugh, Pete Hoekstra, Peter King, Lamar Smith, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and the House GOP leadership team – a principle with which an overwhelming majority of Americans agree.

Simply put, our constituents don't want some of the world's most dangerous terrorists – men like Khalid Sheikh Muhammad, the mastermind of the 9/11 attacks, and Abu Zubaydah, who personally trained some of the 9/11 hijackers – transferred from the Guantanamo Bay prison into their communities. As their representatives in the People's House, we have the opportunity – and frankly, the obligation – to let their voices be heard as the Administration determines what to do with the 200-plus terrorists held at the Guantanamo Bay prison. So, I write to you with an invitation to join me in co-sponsoring the *Keep Terrorists Out of America Act* (H.R. 2294).

The *Keep Terrorists Out of America Act* has nothing to do with the ongoing debate over enhanced interrogation tactics. It is not intended to dictate a strategy in the War on Terrorism. And it is not meant to pit Party against Party, or Congress against the Administration. It was written for one basic but critical reason: **to keep terrorists out of America.** Here's how:

- The *Keep Terrorists Out of America Act* clearly affirms Congress' opposition to transferring or releasing terrorists held at the Guantanamo Bay prison into the United States.
- H.R. 2289 prohibits the Administration from transferring or releasing any terrorist detainees at Guantanamo to any state without express approval from the state's governor and legislature, and certifies to Congress that strict requirements have been met.

- And finally, the legislation prohibits the Administration from transferring or releasing a terrorist detainee into the United States without fulfilling strict congressional notification and certification requirements.

The safety of the American people is our highest priority, and ensuring that some of the most dangerous men on the face of the Earth are not shipped into the United States is one way that we can ensure that priority is upheld. Over the last several weeks, in hearings, on the floor, in newspapers, and in our congressional districts, many of us have voiced opposition against terrorists being transferred from the Guantanamo Bay prison into America. I invite you to join me in taking action to ensure terrorists are not imported into our communities. Join me in co-sponsoring the *Keep Terrorists Out of America Act*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

John Boehner (R-OH)  
House Republican Leader