

## Waste Action Alert

A publication of the RSC Sunset Caucus from co-chairs Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Jason Chaffetz (R-UT)  
Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), RSC Chairman

### Sunset Spending on the Guantanamo Bay Soccer Field

April 25, 2012

**Program or Item Targeted:** Spending for the new soccer field in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

**Cost of Program or Item:** This costs an estimated \$750,000 to build.

**Background on Program or Item to Be Sunseted:** The United States' detention camp in Guantanamo Bay is being used to house detainees from the wars in Afghanistan and in Iraq. According to the Department of Defense, these detainees are terrorists, terrorist trainers, and supporters and financiers of terrorism. The detention policy began under the Bush administration and has continued under the Obama administration.

Recently, the Department of Defense announced that they would be constructing a soccer field for the detainees at Guantanamo Bay.

**Why This Item Is Wasteful:** The decision to spend close to a million tax dollars for the enjoyment and recreation of both suspected and known terrorists in Guantanamo Bay is wrongheaded and wasteful. Guantanamo Bay houses terrorists such as Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, who will soon be tried there for his actions. According to the 9/11 Commission Report, he was the "principal architect of the 9/11 attacks." Khalid Sheikh Mohammed has since confessed to his involvement in these attacks, along with a list of other terrorist acts including the Millennium Plot and the murder of Daniel Pearl. Even Secretary of Defense Panetta has admitted to not being aware of the soccer field project. With a federal debt of over \$15 trillion, we cannot afford to pay for an unnecessary soccer field in Guantanamo Bay.

**MEMBER ACTION ITEM:** Rep. Dennis Ross has introduced H.R. 4188, the None of Our Funds in the Interest or for the Exercise or Leisure of Detainees (NO FIELD) Act. This legislation reduces next year's discretionary spending limit for the security category by \$750,000 and puts those savings toward deficit reduction, and does so for the stated purpose of ensuring that the money is not spent on entertainment for suspected and known terrorists. For any questions or if you would like to cosponsor, please contact Omar Raschid on at [omar.raschid@mail.house.gov](mailto:omar.raschid@mail.house.gov) or 5-1252.

If you would like to participate in eliminating wasteful programs with the RSC Sunset Caucus, please e-mail [Rick.Eberstadt@mail.house.gov](mailto:Rick.Eberstadt@mail.house.gov).

Note: Not every item featured in the Waste Action Alerts is necessarily endorsed by the RSC. These Alerts highlight the individual initiatives of members of the RSC Sunset Caucus.

*"The RSC Sunset Caucus uncovers government waste and seeks to eliminate it,  
working to sunset programs that taxpayers shouldn't be paying for."*

