

STEVE DAINES
MONTANA

320 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2651

United States Senate

April 1, 2016

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
TRANSPORTATION
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Honorable John McCain
Chairman
U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee
Russell Senate Building, Room 228
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee
Russell Senate Building, Room 228
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

Dear Chairman McCain and Ranking Member Reed:

I'm writing to request that the fiscal year (FY) 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) include a provision delaying the mandatory conversion of certain dual status technicians until October 1, 2017. Section 1053 of FY2016 NDAA requires the National Guard to convert 20% of the Title 32 Dual Status Technicians to Title 5 federal civilian employees beginning January 1, 2017. The Department of Defense, however, failed to uphold their congressionally directed timeline for providing a plan for this conversion, and I continue to hear about the impact it will have on National Guard mission readiness.

The changes required by the FY2016 create a significant shift in authority from Governors and State Adjutant Generals to the federal government, representing a serious federal overreach into states like Montana that have a National Guard with proven mission success on and off the battlefield. The Secretary of Defense was directed in the FY2016 NDAA to provide a plan for this conversion by February 1st of this year, yet he did not do so. By failing to provide the National Guard with a well thought out plan and adequate time to carry out this change, I feel we are not doing our due diligence to ensure mission success. This is not a decision that should be rushed or taken lightly.

Given the concerns it is clear moving forward with the current timeline would set our National Guard units up for failure. As the Senate Armed Services Committee drafts the FY2017 NDAA, I request a provision be included that delays the mandatory conversion of certain Dual Status Technicians from Title 32 to Title 5 civilians to October 1, 2017.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



STEVE DAINES
United States Senator

7TH ANNUAL MONTANA WARRIOR RUN

10K 8:30AM
5K 10:00AM
1 MI 11:15AM
TRIFECTA

HELENA



To register use the QR code above or go to
<https://runsignup.com/> and search
7th Annual Montana Warrior Run-Helena.
Military and Veteran rates apply (Military2016).

For more information on Impact Montana visit us
on Facebook or www.impactmontana.org/.

CENTENNIAL PARK

APRIL 16 2016

2nd ANNUAL MONTANA
MILITARY APPRECIATION *GALA*
GATEWAY CENTER



1710 NATIONAL AVE

6PM-11PM

Join us in celebrating the military and Veteran community with Hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment, no-host bar, silent auction, raffle, 50/50, and the Impact Montana awards.

For more information and to register use the QR Code or search Montana Military

Appreciation Gala at www.eventbrite.com. Advanced ticket purchases apply.



2016 EVENT SPONSORS

Kent, Cari (Daines)

From: Press (Daines)
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2016 7:17 AM
To: Press (Daines)
Subject: RELEASE: Daines Leads 14 Senators in Introducing Resolution to Detain ISIL Fighters in Guantanamo

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2016

Daines Leads 14 Senators in Introducing Resolution to Detain ISIL Fighters in Guantanamo

U.S. SENATE — Following the recent announcement that U.S. Special Forces captured an Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) leader while carrying out Operation Inherent Resolve, Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) today led 14 Senators in introducing a resolution to detain ISIL fighters at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Cosponsors of the resolution include Senators **Jerry Moran (R-KS), Cory Gardner (R-CO), Tom Cotton (R-AR), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Mark Kirk (R-IL), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Joni Ernst (R-IA), Johnny Isakson (R-GA), John Boozman (R-AR), Pat Roberts (R-KS), Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Tim Scott (R-SC) and David Vitter (R-LA).**

As the United States continues to conduct combat operations against ISIL, U.S. forces are likely to continue capturing terrorists. Guantanamo Bay was established to house individuals who engaged in, aided, abetted or conspired to commit, acts of international terrorism and should be utilized as such as our nation faces a continued threat of terrorism.

“Last week when I was at Guantanamo Bay I saw plenty of vacant cells,” **Senator Daines stated.** “Terrorists captured by U.S. forces belong in Guantanamo, a location that has played a pivotal role for collecting intelligence from detainees and keeping terrorists off the battlefield in the global war on terror. These dangerous individuals do not belong on U.S. soil, or in the custody of a nation that may allow them to return to the battlefield as we have seen before. We must ensure they don’t continue to spread radical Islam throughout the world, and Guantanamo Bay serves an integral purpose for just that.”

“My recent visit to Guantanamo Bay reaffirmed my belief that it is the best place to detain individuals who wish to do our nation harm,” **Senator Moran stated.** “The detention facility is a place to counter the serious national security threats we face across the globe. Captured militants affiliated with ISIL and other terrorist groups are dangerous and should be held at Guantanamo Bay, not in Kansas or anywhere else in the United States.”

“My recent trip to Guantanamo Bay not only confirmed that the detainees should remain there, but also that this facility is tailor-made for enemy combatants,” **Senator Gardner stated.** “At a time when the Obama Administration lacks a coherent strategy to defeat ISIL, it’s more important now

detention facility in the fight against global terrorism. We must keep those who wish to do us harm off the battlefield and, especially off of American soil.”

“Closing Gitmo and transferring detainees to American soil creates needless national security risks and poses unnecessary threats to American citizens,” **Senator Boozman stated.** “The state-of-the-art facility is more than serving its purpose for detaining the worst of the worst, obtaining valuable intelligence from them and keeping these terrorists who are bent on destroying America from returning to the battlefield. As the threat posed by ISIL grows, Gitmo remains the only option to house these terrorists. Any facility on U.S. soil is not an option. It never was with al-Qaeda terrorists, nor can it be with ISIL terrorists. We are committed to ensuring that President Obama understands this and is prevented from closing the detention center at Guantanamo Bay.”

“America faces unknown threats as we confront the spread of ISIS or ISIL, the growing number of terrorist attacks and as we deal with the president’s failed foreign policy decisions,” **Senator Roberts stated.** “Guantanamo Bay is the safest and most suitable facility to house future detainees. The security and consequences of moving these and future terrorists and combatants to the mainland is unknown and is simply not worth the risk to American communities.”

“President Obama’s default foreign policy strategy has been to kill off high-ranking ISIL fighters with drones instead of attempting to detain them to glean valuable intelligence information,” **Senator Inhofe stated.** “This has weakened our nation’s ability to more quickly make advancements in the Middle East. Guantanamo Bay has served a purpose in the fight against extreme terrorism, and we should be sending ISIL fighters there so that we can garner better knowledge on their tactics and plans that would impact our national security as well as our allies.”

“Instead of trying to empty out Guantanamo and transfer dangerous terrorists to domestic soil in order to fulfill a campaign promise, the President should instead be focused on detaining captured ISIS fighters and other terrorists there,” **Senator Scott stated.** “I visited Guantanamo late last year and met the dedicated Marines who are guarding the terrorists currently held there, and can say unequivocally this is the best place on the planet for us to hold those captured overseas who wish to do us harm. The President’s refusal to do so puts our national security at risk, plain and simple.”

“Under no circumstance should the United States allow dangerous terrorists on our homeland, leaving the military prison at Guantanamo Bay as our very best – and frankly, our only – option to detain terrorists,” **Senator Vitter stated.** “During the course of its existence, Guantanamo has played a major role in securing the safety of American families,” Senator Vitter said. “Closing Guantanamo Bay endangers our security, and President Obama is kidding himself if he thinks otherwise.”

Read the full text of the resolution below or download it [here](#).

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Senate that individuals captured by the United States for supporting the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant should be detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.