



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 8, 2009

[www.house.gov/shuster](http://www.house.gov/shuster)

Contact: Jeff Urbanchuk, Press Secretary  
(202) 225-2431  
(202) 593-1040 cell  
(202) 225-2486 fax  
[jg.urbanchuk@mail.house.gov](mailto:jg.urbanchuk@mail.house.gov)

## ***Shuster Cosponsors “Keep Terrorists out of America Act”***

Washington, D.C.-**Congressman Bill Shuster**, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, released the following statement as an original cosponsor of the *Keep Terrorists out of America Act*; legislation introduced by key House Republican leaders.

“When President Obama signed an executive order in January to close the terrorist detention facility at Guantanamo Bay without a plan for dealing with detainees, he put politics before our national security.

It is now five months later and President Obama still has no plan in place detailing how he would close the facility and more important – no plan in place that absolutely prohibits the terrorists held there from being sent to the United States.

Many of these detainees are dangerous, committed and determined to do us harm. Bringing them into our prisons and our communities will not make us safer. I will not allow the Administration to move terrorist detainees into the United States without a fight and that fight begins with the *Keep Terrorists out of America Act*.”

**Here is a summary of the Keep Terrorists Out of America Act from the House Armed Services Committee:**

•**Affirming Congress’ Opposition to the Release and Transfer of Terrorists.** The bill affirms Congress’ opposition to transferring or releasing terrorists held at the Guantanamo Bay prison into the United States. The bill gives Congress an opportunity to show that it stands with the American people on this critical matter, and opposes the release and transfer of these terrorists.

•**Governor and State Legislature Pre-Approval.** The measure prohibits the Administration from transferring or releasing any terrorist detainees at Guantanamo Bay to any state without express approval from the state’s governor and legislature, and certifies to Congress that strict requirements have been met. For example, the Administration must certify to the respective governor and state legislature that the detainee does not pose a security risk to the United States. The certifications must be made 60 days before any transfer or release.

•**Presidential Certification Requirements.** The measure prohibits the President from transferring or releasing a terrorist detainee into the United States unless he provides the following notification and certification to Congress regarding:

- o The name of the detainee and transfer/release location in the United States.
- o The release/transfer would not negatively impact continued prosecution of the detainee.
- o The release/transfer would not negatively impact continued detention of the detainee.
- o The ability of federal judges to release detainees into the United States.

###