

Detainee act passes

Impeach those who

voted for bill

Members of Congress who voted for the National Defense Authorization Bill should be immediately impeached for violating their pledge to defend the Constitution of the United States. ["Agreement reached on Pentagon cuts," News, Dec. 14.]

Allowing the military to detain anyone deemed a terrorist without trial is, in itself, treason against the freedoms of the United States. These domestic violators should be immediately impeached for breach of office.

President Obama must veto this bill or be guilty of violating of his solemn oath to this country.

—Doug Johnson, Seattle

Rights are at stake

An unconscionable portion of the National Defense Authorization Act would allow indefinite military detention of anyone who "substantially supported al-Qaida, the Taliban, or associated forces" — a definition so broad that it can apply to anyone associated with, or who is claimed to be associated with, any Islamic terrorist organization.

Under that provision, no proof and no trial would be required to lock away an American citizen apprehended on American soil for the rest of his or her life.

The terrorist threat is ebbing, and the greater emergency now is our own government's determination to steal our rights.

Well Done
—Derek A. Jones, Renton
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Pain and politics