



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Timothy M. Kaine
Governor

May 21, 2009

2009

The Honorable Eric I. Cantor
United States House of Representatives
329 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4607

The Honorable Robert J. Wittman
United States House of Representatives
1123 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0001

The Honorable J. Randy Forbes
United States House of Representatives
2438 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0001

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
United State House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4610

The Honorable Robert W. Goodlatte
United States House of Representatives
2240 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0001

Dear Congressmen:

I am writing in response to your letter regarding the potential transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay. I support President Obama in his decision to close Guantanamo Bay in a timely fashion. Furthermore, I have faith in the President and his military and legal advisors to determine the appropriate conditions and circumstances to carry out the plan.

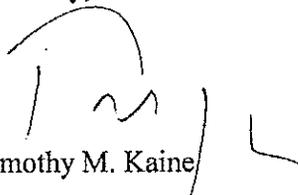
In his first months in office, President Obama has already made our nation both safer and stronger by rejecting torture and other tactics that violate basic human rights as part of our country's security policy. Moving forward, we must continue to make decisions—however complicated or difficult they may be—that improve the security of the United States and remain true to our American values.

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Obviously, I will work with law enforcement and the U.S. Armed Forces to maintain the highest standards of public safety throughout the Commonwealth. That has been my consistent commitment during nearly 15 years in elected office.

Sincerely,



Timothy M. Kaine