



Rep. Tom Emmer on about banning the transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay

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****REP. TOM EMMER:**

** This is Congressman Tom Emmer. This past weekend, we mourned as a nation on the 15th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks. On that day, we remembered the thousands of lives lost and the bravery of so many as they rushed into crumbling buildings to save their fellow Americans. On this grave anniversary, we are also reminded of the very real threats that our nation continues to face. Despite these harrowing threats, this administration continues to recklessly gamble with our national security. This has been proven once again by their stance on Guantanamo Bay. When President Obama first ran for office, he promised that one of the first things he would do upon taking office would be to close Guantanamo Bay. While measures have been taken to prevent Guantanamo's closure, as well as the transfer of Guantanamo detainees to American soil, there are no current laws that would prevent the transfer of detainees to other countries. Last month, President Obama approved the largest single transfer of Guantanamo detainees, sending 15 of them to the United Arab Emirates. This is especially concerning as President Obama approved this transfer despite knowing that the country they're being sent to does not have the means to prevent their return to terrorism. According to the Director of National Intelligence, nearly one-third of released detainees go back to terrorism upon their release. We absolutely cannot allow dangerous terrorists to gain their freedom and return to fulfill their mission, killing innocent civilians in the name of radical Islam. That's why this week, I joined the majority of my colleagues voting in favor of legislation that forbids the transfer of any Guantanamo Bay detainee. I will not stand by and permit the President to put his legacy and irresponsible campaign promise ahead of the welfare of the American people. I'd like to thank Representative Jackie Wilarski for introducing the bill, and I can assure all of you at home that we are going to do everything in our power to keep the dangerous terrorists where they belong, locked up in Guantanamo Bay. Thanks for listening, and have a great week. How's that for the way you do it?

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