

There have been many assertions made about these provisions, some of which could not be further from the truth. It just so happens these outlandish accusations are from the ACLU and their allies in Congress.

First off, this bill does not allow the US military to supplant your local police department in carrying out typical law enforcement activities. Section 1031 only affirms the authority that the president currently has to detain certain people pursuant to the current military force authorization; in fact, this bill says that nothing in this section is intended to expand the president's power. In addition, in reaffirming the president's authority to detain people, this section specifically limits the people who can be detained under this act to only those people who planned or helped carry out the 9/11 attacks on the United States or people who are a member of or substantially support Al-Qaeda, the Taliban, or associated forces that fighting against the US and its coalition partners. Simply put, you need to be involved with Al-Qaeda, the Taliban, or one of its surrogates and you have to make a deliberate act that directly supports their efforts against us in the war on terror to be detained under this act.

Section 1032 of this bill deals with the requirements that are needed for the U.S. military to hold people in custody. This portion of the act differs from section 1031 in that this section deals with a much more select group of people that must be detained by the U.S. Military. Any person detained under the authority of Section 1032 must be a member or part of Al-Qaeda or an associated force AND they must have participated in the planning or execution of an attack against the US or our coalition partners. In addition, this section of the act has a limiting clause that specifically states that the military detention requirement does not extend to US citizens or lawful permanent residents.

I want to thank you all for reaching out to the office to voice your concerns on this bill. I want to assure you that Senator Rubio and his staff always have, and always will, listen to your concerns and address them in a timely fashion.

The Senator has proposed 2 Amendments to prevent the President from transferring foreign terrorists to the U.S. to be prosecuted in the federal court system. However, in regard to the idea that this bill allows the U.S. military to supplant our local police departments and detain otherwise law abiding citizens for purchasing gold or guns is unfounded. Those types of measures are not included in this bill; moreover, the Senator would never support them.