

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 5

Introduced by Assembly Member Harkey

February 6, 2009

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 5—Relative to Guantanamo Bay detainees.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 5, as introduced, Harkey. Camp Pendleton: housing detainees of Guantanamo Bay.

This measure would urge the Congress of the United States, with respect to detainees of the United States Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, not to redirect those detainees to or house them at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On January 22, 2009, President Barack Obama
2 announced plans to close the detention center at the United States
3 Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (hereafter Guantanamo
4 Bay) and signed an order that begins the process of closing
5 Guantanamo Bay; and
6 WHEREAS, Although the order makes no specific mention of
7 United States Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California
8 (hereafter Camp Pendleton), or any other United States facility
9 where detainees of Guantanamo Bay may be rehoused, some
10 reports place Camp Pendleton on the short list of possible facilities;
11 and

1 WHEREAS, Guantanamo Bay houses some of the most
2 hardened killers and terrorists in the world, some of whom have
3 already killed within the detention center; and

4 WHEREAS, Camp Pendleton houses approximately 14,000
5 family members of personnel inside the base, is too busy training
6 troops for war to adequately deal with terrorism suspects, and is
7 not equipped to house the hardened terrorists and criminals who
8 are currently housed at Guantanamo Bay; and

9 WHEREAS, Housing former detainees of Guantanamo Bay at
10 Camp Pendleton would present safety risks to residents in southern
11 California, along with the soldiers and civilians who live and work
12 on the base; and

13 WHEREAS, The terrorist detainees also should not be relocated
14 to Camp Pendleton because it is within 12 miles of the San Onofre
15 Nuclear Generating Station, the only nuclear facility in Southern
16 California; and

17 WHEREAS, United States Representatives Darrell Issa, Brian
18 Bilbray, and Duncan Hunter have implored Defense Secretary
19 Robert Gates to take Camp Pendleton off the list of United States
20 facilities where detainees of Guantanamo Bay may be rehoused,
21 and have introduced H.R. 633, which would prevent federal funds
22 from being used to transfer enemy combatants detained at
23 Guantanamo Bay to the Naval Consolidated Brig, Miramar,
24 California, or to the Camp Pendleton Base Brig, or to construct
25 facilities for those enemy combatants at those locations; and

26 WHEREAS, Secretary of Defense Gates has rejected the claim
27 that rehousing Guantanamo Bay detainees at Camp Pendleton
28 would pose a safety risk, and has said that he believes there are
29 ways that those detainees could be moved to facilities such as
30 Camp Pendleton while still safeguarding the community; and

31 WHEREAS, Camp Pendleton should be removed from the list
32 of potential locations at which to rehouse detainees of Guantanamo
33 Bay, and those detainees should instead be housed in appropriate
34 federal prisons; now, therefore, be it

35 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
36 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of California
37 strongly urges the Congress of the United States, with respect to
38 detainees at Guantanamo Bay, not to redirect or house those
39 detainees at Camp Pendleton; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
2 of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the
3 United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
4 to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress
5 of the United States.

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