

Chairman Rubin & fellow members of the House Corrections & Juvenile Justice Committee,

The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states, "In ALL criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State..." I strongly believe that a person either supports the whole U.S. Constitution, in every situation, or they do not support the Constitution at all.

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) passed by the U.S. Congress allows for the indefinite detention of American citizens on the basis of national security or alleged association with terrorism. The major problem with this policy is twofold. First, the Sixth Amendment makes no exception for who should receive the right to a public trial, regardless of the crime committed. Secondly, I am concerned with the Executive Branch's unilateral ability to define "terrorist" and carry out punishment. The Department of Homeland Security has identified several indicators of domestic terrorism within the United States in a series of reports including the Missouri Information Analysis Center Report. A few of the indicators of domestic terrorism, according to DHS, are as follows:

- Pro-Life advocates
- Returning war veterans
- Second Amendment advocates
- Third Party supporters (i.e. Libertarian, Constitution Party, etc.)

Consider how many law-abiding citizens fit into one of these categories that the Executive Branch has identified as a red flag for domestic terrorism. When we allow the government the power to detain citizens without a trial, there can be no God-given right safe from such a government. When the federal government acts in violation of our God-given rights, it is the moral obligation for the State to serve as a shield between the citizens and the federal government's disregard for the U.S. Constitution.

Sincerely,

Brett Hildabrand

Kansas Representative, District 17