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## General Assembly Approves Resolution Advanced by Sen. Jane Cunningham Urging Congress to Keep Suspected Terrorists Released from Guantanamo Bay Out of Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY — The General Assembly passed House Concurrent Resolution No. 16 this week (5/12) advanced by Sen. Jane Cunningham, R-Chesterfield, that urges Congress not to allow suspected terrorists expected to be released from Guantanamo Bay to cross Missouri state borders with no plan for future placement or to be housed in the state.

"Because President Obama has ordered the Pentagon to close Guantanamo Bay prison within a year, Missouri is taking this action to protect our citizens from suspected terrorists who have committed or are accused of committing the most egregious terrorist crimes against the United States, including the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon," Sen. Cunningham said.

During remarks from the Senate floor, Sen. Cunningham highlighted similar provisions from Ohio Congressman John Boehner's proposed federal legislation, H.R. 2294, introduced last week requiring President Barack Obama to receive approval from state legislatures and governors prior to transferring detainees at the Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to facilities within their state. The proposed federal legislation is co-sponsored by Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt.

"This measure would simply extend to the states the same privilege that the administration is extending to other foreign nations — whether or not to accept these dangerous terrorists," Sen. Cunningham said.

Sponsored by Rep. Clint Tracy, R-Cape Girardeau, <u>HCR 16</u> urges Congress to reject any act of asylum, containment, transport, imprisonment or medical care in regard to suspected terrorists from any United States operated foreign prison such as Guantanamo Bay and advises those prisoners not be allowed in Missouri.

"Whether it's routing these terror suspects through Missouri, a temporary internment or medical care at a Missouri facility, this would pose an unnecessary risk to the safety, security and lives of our citizens and we want to make it clear that Missouri does not want to take that chance with our citizens' safety," Sen. Cunningham said.

For further information about Senator Jane Cunningham and her legislation, you may visit her Senate website at <a href="https://www.senate.mo.gov/cunningham">www.senate.mo.gov/cunningham</a> or contact her Chief of Staff, Lucy LePage, at (573) 751-1186.

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