

## Shays, Castle Urge House Leadership to Only Consider Military Tribunal Legislation That Fully Adhere

We believe that the approach taken by the Senate Armed Services Committee, and, in particular, its approach to Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions and revisions to the War Crimes Act, is vital to protecting American service members in the field both now and in the future. We strongly support President Bush's efforts to defeat terrorism and also believe these provisions will play a crucial role in winning that struggle. They will provide vital clarity about the values and standards by which America lives in contrast to our enemies. President Bush has said that America will stand firm on the non-negotiable demands of human dignity and will treat all detainees humanely. The Committee-adopted Military Commissions Act implements this pledge.

The Senate provisions are consistent with the newly issued U.S. Army Field Manual on Interrogation. The Field Manual makes it clear that abusive interrogation tactics are not necessary to obtain information. The Manual shows that such tactics are counterproductive and produce unreliable information. It also warns that using such tactics endanger U.S. forces. Indeed, in releasing the new Field Manual on September 6, 2006, Lt. General Kimmons, the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence said: "I am absolutely convinced [that] no good intelligence is going to come from abusive practices. I think history tells us that. I think the empirical evidence of the last five years, hard years, tell us that."

It is vital we not equivocate or waiver on our commitment to treating those in U.S. custody in the same manner we would expect our own citizens be treated.