

Village Independent Democrats

MILITARY DETENTION ACT

Resolution:
January 12, 2012

Whereas the National Defense Administration Act (NDAA) authorizes the President to indefinitely detain Americans, arrested on U.S. soil, without charge or trial; and

Whereas this authorization extends to anyone who has “substantially supported” forces “associated” with al-Qaeda or the Taliban that “are engaged in hostilities” against the U.S. or its “coalition partners,” and where none of these vague terms are defined in the law; and

Whereas this means no one can be sure if he/she is safe from the government detention; and

Whereas the final Senate amendment to the NDAA, by inserting certain qualifying language, did not relieve these Constitutional infirmities, and the current and past two administrations have all argued they have these powers, a position this law encourages; and

Whereas the Senate and the House could have easily blocked this position by making it clear that no American citizen arrested on U.S. soil may be detained indefinitely, a position this organization firmly believes correctly states the rights of citizens as protected by our Constitution;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Village Independent Democrats (VID) finds this provision of the NDAA to be in violation of long-held and inviolable principles of the Constitution and rights of its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that VID calls upon the Senate and the House of Representatives to repeal and remove the aforementioned provision of NDAA.