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## **Anti-Torture Legislation Passed by Senate**

October 8, 2015 — The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) welcomes language in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), approved by the Senate this week, that establishes that no agency may engage in torture, and all agencies are bound by the interrogation tactics identified in the Army Field Manual. The legislation bans long-term detention authority for the CIA, and mandates that the International Committee of the Red Cross be given access to any detainee in U.S. custody.

CJA Executive Director Dixon Osburn said: "President Obama should sign the defense bill to ensure that future administrations do not wander down the dark path of torture in violation of our Geneva Convention obligations. Torture is counterproductive to our national security and should never be revisited."

CJA renews its call on the U.S. Attorney General to open a criminal investigation based on the information contained in a 6,200-page study on CIA detention and interrogation tactics produced by the Senate Intelligence Committee, from which the committee published a 525-page executive summary last December. The recommendations for reform introduced by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) in this anti-torture provision of the NDAA derive from the committee's report.

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## **About the Center for Justice and Accountability**

The Center for Justice and Accountability is an international human rights organization dedicated to deterring torture, war crimes, crimes against humanity and other severe human rights abuses around the world through litigation, policy advocacy and outreach in pursuit of truth, justice and redress for victims and survivors. www.cja.org