



For Immediate Release
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Congress Should Pass Proposed Legislation to Ban Torture

The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) welcomes Senator Dianne Feinstein's (D-Calif.) proposed legislation to deter torture by the United States outlined in a [letter](#) sent to President Obama and made public Monday. CJA's Executive Director Dixon Osburn said, "The United States strives to ensure that dictators and terrorists around the globe do not commit crimes against humanity, including torture; the United States should live up to those standards at home."

Senator Feinstein announced that she will introduce legislation to clarify that the domestic law banning torture, the Detainee Treatment Act, bans torture and applies to all agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency. The legislation will clarify that interrogation tactics shall be limited to those identified in the Army Field Manual and those tactics shall apply to all agencies, including the CIA. The legislation will also ban long-term detention authority for the CIA.

CJA [renews its call on Attorney General Eric Holder](#) 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 announced by Senator Feinstein derive from the committee's report.

Osburn said: "Justice requires accountability. One cannot look forward until one has acknowledged and accepted responsibility for past crimes."

About the Center for Justice and Accountability

CJA is a San Francisco-based human rights organization dedicated to deterring torture and other severe human rights abuses around the world and advancing the rights of survivors to seek truth, justice and redress. CJA uses litigation to hold perpetrators individually accountable for human rights abuses, develop human rights law, and advance the rule of law in countries transitioning from periods of abuse. www.cja.org

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