



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE OF HAWAII  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 23, 2010

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### **HAWAII LEGISLATORS QUESTION U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HANDLING OF THE "UNDERWEAR BOMBER"**

Over a dozen members of the Hawaii State Legislature voiced their concerns over the handling of the "Christmas bomber" terrorist, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, in a letter sent to Attorney General Eric Holder today.

The letter criticizes the Justice Department's decision to read Miranda rights to Abdulmutallab and give him a lawyer instead of handing him over to the military and intelligence community.

The letter also points out the \$300 million cost for a civilian trial in New York City could be avoided by handing him over to the military and intelligence agencies to handle it at Guantanamo for just \$1 million.

Rep. Gene Ward (R-Hawaii Kai-Kalama Valley) who authored the letter said, "A man who admits he is an al-Qaeda terrorist committed to the destruction of America should never be treated with the same rights and privileges as if he was just a convenience store robber."

"It just doesn't make sense for our country to spend 300 times as much money to avoid treating a terrorist like a terrorist," Ward concluded.

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Representative Gene Ward is a member of the State House of Representatives  
and represents House District 17, Hawaii Kai—Kalama Valley.