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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8016

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Senators Oemig, Regala, Kohl-Welles, Kline, Spanel, Fairley,  
Kauffman, Fraser and Prentice

Read first time . Referred to .

1            TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
2 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

4            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
5 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
6 represent and petition as follows:

7            WHEREAS, On September 8, 2006, when summarizing a bipartisan Senate  
8 investigation into prewar intelligence on Iraq, Senator John D. (Jay)  
9 Rockefeller IV, the Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on  
10 Intelligence said that, "The Committee's investigation into prewar  
11 intelligence on Iraq has revealed that the Bush Administration's case  
12 for war in Iraq was fundamentally misleading. The Administration  
13 pursued a deceptive strategy of using intelligence reporting that the  
14 Intelligence Community had already warned was uncorroborated,  
15 unreliable, and in critical instances, fabricated."; and

16            WHEREAS, The President, the Vice President, and members of the  
17 President's Administration appear to have deliberately misrepresented  
18 the severity of the threat from Iraq by providing distorted  
19 intelligence to Congress and the public in order to justify war with  
20 Iraq; and

1       WHEREAS, The war with Iraq has cost the lives of many Washington  
2 state residents and squandered taxpayer money from the state of  
3 Washington; and

4       WHEREAS, The President has publicly admitted to conducting  
5 electronic surveillance of thousands and perhaps millions of American  
6 civilians without seeking warrants; and

7       WHEREAS, Washington state residents are likely to have been subject  
8 to this electronic surveillance; and

9       WHEREAS, The President, the Vice President, and members of the  
10 President's Administration have acted to strip American citizens of  
11 their constitutional rights, based solely on the discretionary  
12 designation by the President of a United States citizen as an "enemy  
13 combatant"; and

14       WHEREAS, Such offenses, if committed, are subversive of  
15 constitutional government to the great prejudice of the cause of law  
16 and justice, and to the manifest injury of the people of Washington  
17 state and of the United States of America; and

18       WHEREAS, Petitions from the country at large may be presented by  
19 the Speaker of the House according to Clause 3 of House Rule XII; and

20       WHEREAS, Jefferson's Manual section LIII, 603, states that  
21 impeachment may be set in motion by charges transmitted from the  
22 legislature of a state; and

23       WHEREAS, If the President and/or members of his administration  
24 committed such offenses, ignoring these offenses would undermine core  
25 American values of truth and justice; and

26       WHEREAS, Impeachment is a process defined in the United States  
27 Constitution by which charges are brought against a President or Vice  
28 President or civil officers of the United States; and

29       WHEREAS, The filing of these charges is followed by a trial in the  
30 United States Senate that determines guilt or innocence;

31       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request that, in  
32 order to preserve confidence in the office of the Presidency and the  
33 Executive branch, our senators and representatives in the United States  
34 Congress determine whether there is sufficient evidence to charge  
35 President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney with the  
36 above offenses and, if so, to follow the Constitutional process of  
37 impeachment.

1       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
2 transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker  
3 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the  
4 State of Washington.

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