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Reyes Statement on President Obama's Speech at the National Archives

WASHINGTON (May 21) - *House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman Silvestre Reyes issued the following statement on President Obama's speech at the National Archives detailing his Administration's plans to close the military prison at Guantanamo Bay:*

"Today before the Charters of Freedom, President Obama reaffirmed America's commitment to the rule of law, and provided a sensible plan to facilitate the closure of the military prison at Guantanamo Bay. This facility remains a sobering reminder of the previous abuses and mistreatment of detainees and, as the President indicated, has done greater harm to our national security by serving as a propaganda tool for terrorists abroad. I believe the President's decision to move toward closure will strengthen our national security and restore America's commitment to justice and due process.

"As Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, I share in the responsibility of keeping America secure through vigorous oversight of our Intelligence Community. I remain committed to working with the Administration to close the military prison at Guantanamo Bay in a manner that preserves our values while also giving the Administration the flexibility necessary to maintain our national security. I believe the President's plan will reestablish America's role as a global leader in the promotion of human rights and realign our country's moral compass, as we continue the fight against those who threaten the United States."