

The Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee offered the following substitute to SR 1035:

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President to pardon the three Navy SEALs facing court martial proceedings in the
2 capture of terrorist Ahmed Hashim Abed; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, three Navy SEALs captured Ahmed Hashim Abed, the alleged planner of the
4 March, 2004, ambush in Fallujah that resulted in the brutal killing of four American
5 contractors who were hung on the bridge over the Euphrates River after being burned and
6 mutilated; and

7 WHEREAS, Abed evaded justice for over five years until Special Warfare Operators Second
8 Class Matthew McCabe and Jonathan Keefe and Special Warfare Operator First Class Julio
9 Huertas undertook a mission that resulted in the capture of this alleged terrorist; and

10 WHEREAS, in the course of capturing Abed, it appears that one of the Navy SEALs may
11 have punched Abed in the stomach; and

12 WHEREAS, these SEALs, by all accounts exceptional sailors as evidenced by the fact that
13 they had each been recently advanced in rank, are now facing court martial proceedings, the
14 penalties for which could include dishonorable discharge and imprisonment; and

15 WHEREAS, these SEALs, at risk to themselves, captured an alleged terrorist wanted for
16 planning an attack that not only killed Americans but also maimed and mutilated their
17 bodies; and

18 WHEREAS, prosecution in this case where there is no evidence of torture or abuse beyond
19 the single punch to Abed's stomach could confuse, demoralize, and negatively impact all
20 American service personnel who are placed in dangerous and often ambiguous situations.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
22 urge President Barrack Obama to personally review the case of these three Navy SEALs for
23 a presidential pardon.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
25 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the President of the United States by
26 certified mail and to send a copy of this resolution to each sailor involved.