

Iraq War Funding Bill Must Redeploy Troops Out of Iraq or I Won't Vote for It

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Contact: Kimberly Allen, (202) 226-8364; (202) 420-1524 [cell]

Rothman: 'Iraq War Funding Bill Must Redeploy U.S. Troops Out of Iraq or I Won't Vote for It'

(Washington, DC)—Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) pledged to vote against any future funding for the Iraq War that is not tied to the safe redeployment of U.S. troops out of Iraq before President Bush leaves office. In a joint letter to the President, Rothman and 68 fellow members of Congress wrote:

"Dear Mr. President: We are writing to inform you that we will only support appropriating additional funds for U.S. military operations in Iraq during Fiscal Year 2008 and beyond for the protection and safe redeployment of our troops out of Iraq before you leave office.

"More than 3,600 of our brave soldiers have died in Iraq. More than 26,000 have been seriously wounded. Hundreds of thousands of Iraqis have been killed or injured in the hostilities and more than 4 million have been displaced from their homes. Furthermore, this conflict has degenerated into a sectarian civil war and U.S. taxpayers have paid more than \$500 billion, despite assurances that you and your key advisors gave our nation at the time you ordered the invasion in March, 2003 that this military intervention would cost far less and be paid from Iraqi oil revenues.

"We agree with a clear and growing majority of the American people who are opposed to continued, open-ended U.S. military operations in Iraq, and believe it is unwise and unacceptable for you to continue to unilaterally impose these staggering costs and the soaring debt on American taxpayers currently and for generations to come."

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