

Statement on the Iraq Study Group Recommendations

For Immediate Release: December 6, 2006

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

Statement on the Recommendations of the Iraq Study Group

Today, the Iraq Study Group issued its report on the Iraq War and U.S. options in Iraq. Congressman Steve Rothman's (D-NJ) statement follows:

"I am deeply disappointed by the Iraq Study Group's recommendations. The authors of this report call for only a partial withdrawal of our combat troops by the beginning of 2008 while leaving behind tens of thousands of other U.S. servicemen and women for an unspecified period of time. Under this 'compromise,' our brave soldiers are still left in harm's way. We must redeploy all U.S. troops out of Iraq within six months. Otherwise, all those left behind will be sitting ducks in the middle of an Iraqi civil war.

"I believe the report's primary value can be to open President Bush's eyes to the fact that his Iraq policy is a failure or, in the words of the report, is simply 'not working.' Beyond that, I think the Commission's recommendation for an open-ended U.S. military presence in Iraq is wrong."

###