

Rothman Continues His Opposition to the President's Failed 'Stay-the-Course' Policy in Iraq

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Congressman Rothman Continues His Opposition to the President's Failed 'Stay-the-Course' Policy in Iraq

Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) voted against a \$94.5 billion emergency supplemental spending bill, most of which would directly fund President Bush's ongoing war in Iraq. Rep. Rothman's statement on his vote follows:

"Our troops in Iraq continue to serve with courage and bravery and I remain proud of them. Their successful mission to eliminate the terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi was a great victory. However, al-Zarqawi's death does not change the fact that the President's failed policy in Iraq has cost too many American lives, tarnished America's image abroad, nearly exhausted our military, and taken our attention away from the Global War on Terrorism.

"Today, I again sent a clear message to President Bush that he cannot count on me to continue paying for his stay-the-course policy in Iraq. We must re-deploy all our troops out of Iraq, returning most of them home and leaving a quick-reaction force in the region. It is time to change course and bring our troops home within six months.

"U.S. involvement in Iraq has now claimed 2,497 lives and cost nearly \$350 billion dollars. Our people would willingly bear the human and economic cost of the war in Iraq if it would actually save American lives in the long-run. It will not. Given the President's lost credibility and ever-changing excuses for taking our country to war, we can no longer justify the egregious loss of American life and hundreds of billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars spent in Iraq."

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