

Rothman Statement on Abuse Of Iraqi Prisoners

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Washington, DC - Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) today issued the following statement after voting in favor of a resolution condemning the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by a small number of U.S. soldiers.

"I am deeply troubled by the abuse of Iraqi prisoners. Such actions do not represent the values of the American people. Those who participated in these cruel and appalling acts must be brought to justice and pay for their heinous behavior. While we know that the United States is a democratic nation committed to respect for human rights, the actions of these soldiers and their superiors have given many people in Iraq and around the world a false impression otherwise.

"It is imperative that our government conduct a full investigation into these abuses and any others that may come to be known, so that recommendations can be made and actions can be taken to prevent such abuses from happening again.

"At the same time we pass this resolution condemning the actions of a small group of American soldiers, we also pay tribute to the vast majority of our troops who are honorable and courageous Americans risking their lives to create a stable and free Iraq that will be able to take care of its own needs and will be a friend to the United States."

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