

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 353

To prohibit the use of funds for an escalation of United States forces in Iraq above the numbers existing as of January 9, 2007.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2007

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds for an escalation of United States forces in Iraq above the numbers existing as of January 9, 2007.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR ESCA-**
4 **LATION OF UNITED STATES FORCES IN IRAQ.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
6 ings:

1 (1) Congress, the representatives of the Amer-
2 ican people, should vote before any additional United
3 States military forces are sent to Iraq.

4 (2) The Authorization for Use of Military Force
5 Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–
6 243) authorized a war against the regime of Saddam
7 Hussein because he was believed to have weapons of
8 mass destruction and to have an operational rela-
9 tionship with Al Qaeda and because he was in defi-
10 ance of United Nations Security Council Resolu-
11 tions.

12 (3) The mission of the Armed Forces of the
13 United States today in Iraq no longer bears any re-
14 semblance to the mission of the Armed Forces au-
15 thorized by Congress in the Authorization for Use of
16 Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002.

17 (4) Iraq has descended into civil war, and sec-
18 tarian violence continues to escalate.

19 (5) On March 5, 2006, General Nash said
20 “[w]e’re in a civil war now; it’s just that not
21 everybody’s joined in”.

22 (6) On December 3, 2006, United Nations Sec-
23 retary General Kofi Annan said “[w]hen we had the
24 strife in Lebanon and other places, we called that a
25 civil war—this is much worse”.

1 (7) On December 17, 2006, former Secretary of
2 State Colin Powell said “I am not persuaded that
3 another surge of troops into Baghdad for the pur-
4 poses of suppressing this communitarian violence,
5 this civil war, will work”.

6 (8) A political solution is required in Iraq, not
7 a military solution.

8 (9) The open-ended commitment of the Armed
9 Forces continues to enable the Iraqis to avoid taking
10 responsibility for their own future. Tens of thou-
11 sands of additional United States troops will only
12 serve to make the Iraqis more dependent on the
13 United States, not less.

14 (10) On November 15, 2006, General Abizaid
15 was unequivocal that increasing our troop commit-
16 ment is not the answer in Iraq, saying “I’ve met
17 with every divisional commander. General Casey, the
18 corps commander, General Dempsey—we all talked
19 together. And I said, ‘In your professional opinion,
20 if we were to bring in more American troops now,
21 does it add considerably to our ability to achieve suc-
22 cess in Iraq?’ And they all said no”.

23 (11) On December 29, 2006, General Casey
24 said “[t]he longer we in the United States forces
25 continue to bear the main burden of Iraq’s security,

1 it lengthens the time that the government of Iraq
2 has to make the hard decisions about reconciliation
3 and dealing with the militias... They can continue to
4 blame us for all of Iraq's problems, which are at
5 base their problems''.

6 (12) More than 3,000 United States troops
7 have died in Iraq, and more than 22,000 have been
8 wounded.

9 (13) President George W. Bush should not be
10 permitted to increase the number of United States
11 troops in harm's way in the civil war in Iraq without
12 a new authorization from Congress that reflects the
13 reality of the changed circumstances on the ground
14 in Iraq.

15 (b) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
16 sion of law, no Federal funds may be obligated or ex-
17 pended by the United States Government to increase the
18 number of United States forces in Iraq above the number
19 for such forces which existed as of January 9, 2007, with-
20 out a specific authorization of Congress by law for such
21 an increase.

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