

Calendar No. 7

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 287

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 12, 2007

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. BROWN) introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

JANUARY 16, 2007

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds for an escalation of United States military 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,*

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

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

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

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

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

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

10 (8) A political solution is required in Iraq, not
11 a military solution.

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

18 (10) On November 15, 2006, General Abizaid
19 was unequivocal that increasing our troop commit-
20 ment is not the answer in Iraq, saying “I’ve met
21 with every divisional commander. General Casey, the
22 corps commander, General Dempsey—we all talked
23 together. And I said, ‘In your professional opinion,
24 if we were to bring in more American troops now,

1 does it add considerably to our ability to achieve suc-
2 cess in Iraq?' And they all said no".

3 (11) On December 29, 2006, General Casey
4 said "[t]he longer we in the United States forces
5 continue to bear the main burden of Iraq's security,
6 it lengthens the time that the government of Iraq
7 has to make the hard decisions about reconciliation
8 and dealing with the militias... They can continue to
9 blame us for all of Iraq's problems, which are at
10 base their problems".

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

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

20 (b) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
21 sion of law, no Federal funds may be obligated or ex-
22 pended by the United States Government to increase the
23 number of United States military forces in Iraq above the
24 number for such forces which existed as of January 9,

- 1 2007, without a specific authorization of Congress by law
- 2 for such an increase.

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