

globe, we will never, ever leave a member of our military in harm's way without support. That is our Congress's responsibility.

Our troops are not the enemy. They deserve our full support, and that is why I hope folks will cosponsor my bill to support our troops in harm's way.

BUSH TROOP ESCALATION PLAN IS NOT GOING TO MAKE AMERICA SAFER

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, in past State of the Union addresses, the President has promised the American people that he will strengthen America's security. Unfortunately, his policies have made the world more dangerous and America less safe. Now he wants to escalate the war in Iraq, despite the overwhelming opposition of the American people and many of his own generals.

After years of insisting we "stay the course" in Iraq, the President has finally decided to make a change. Unfortunately, it is one that puts more Americans in danger and further compromises our security here at home. There is no doubt that the war in Iraq was the defining issue during last year's election. Americans overwhelmingly voted in favor of a change in course, but not the one now proposed by President Bush.

Madam Speaker, tonight President Bush has a chance to show he has listened to the American people, his own generals, and Democratic and Republican Members of Congress.

PLEDGING THE SUPPORT OF CONGRESS TO UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES SERVING IN HARM'S WAY

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today and I am proud to follow my good friend from Texas, Mr. JOHNSON, and support his bill, H.R. 511, to say to those men and women across the world that are defending freedom and democracy on our behalf, we will not let you down; we will support you.

One of the things that there is a lot of debate in this House on and will be is about whether our mission is the right mission or not. But let there be no mistake that we cannot fail in our mission, and we cannot afford for our young men and women to ever doubt that this United States Congress will support them.

Also, I rise to honor today a great American, Roy Velez, Jr., who will be my guest tonight for the President's State of the Union message. Roy paid the ultimate price for our country in that he gave two sons to our efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Madam Speaker, we cannot let our men and women have any doubt of our

support, nor can we let their families doubt the support of this Congress.

So I rise in support and encourage all of my colleagues to support H.R. 511, to say to the men and women and our troops, thank you, God bless you, and we will support you.

TIME TO BRING OUR MISSING CHILDREN HOME

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, when I last served in Congress, I made it my mission to discuss missing and exploited children at every opportunity, and I rise today to bring attention to the hundreds of thousands of children who go missing annually and to the thousands of children who go missing every day.

Pedro Maldonado is just one of those children. Pedro is missing from Camden, New Jersey. He is 17 years old and was last seen on September 14, last year. At that time he was 5'11" and weighed 180 pounds. He is biracial, white and Hispanic, and has black hair and brown eyes. Pedro has a scar above his right eye and may still be seen in the local area. He may still be in the Camden area and is considered "endangered missing."

Madam Speaker, I ask that anyone who is watching this proceeding, especially if they are in New Jersey or New York, take a moment, look at Pedro's picture to see if you recognize him, and anyone having information should contact the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-THE-LOST or the Camden City Police Department at 856-757-7400.

Madam Speaker, it is time we bring our missing children home.

SUPPORT AMERICAN TROOPS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the American soldier has always protected this Nation from those seeking to destroy our freedoms. U.S. soldiers go to the vast plains of combat. These troops forge onward into the fires of battle. They ensure generations of Americans that our interests will be protected around the world. Our volunteers expect their government to support them.

Now some Members of Congress talk of cutting funding to the American soldiers engaged in the desert battles of Iraq, and they want to pull our soldiers out a few at a time. This ill-advised political decision will leave U.S. soldiers abandoned and at the mercy of an enemy that will exploit this weakness.

But this action by Congress is not new. A previous Congress did not like the way a war was going and tried to change the policy and tried to change the plan. That Congress even complained about funds for the war and wanted a new leader.

Good thing that commander pressed on and won the war. He said to those skeptics and cynics in Congress, "We should never despair. Our situation before has been unpromising, and has changed for the better. So it will again." The war was the War for Independence, and the Commander in Chief was George Washington.

And that's just the way it is.

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PRESIDENT BUSH EXPECTED TO SPEAK OUT ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING TONIGHT AND NEEDS TO ACT

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, over the last week, we have heard that President Bush is finally going to admit tonight what most of us have known for many years, that global warming is actually occurring and that we as a Nation need to take action.

Tonight's expected pronouncement from the President is welcome news, but it does not excuse the administration's past record on global warming. Over the last 6 years the Bush administration has served as a major roadblock to reversing dangerous warming trends. The President walked away from international efforts to help reduce the growing danger to our planet, refusing to actually lead on this critically important issue.

In my home State of New Jersey, we are proud of the fact that former Governor Richard J. Codey took decisive action over a year ago to strengthen our State's efforts to combat global warming by classifying carbon dioxide as an air contaminant. This action made New Jersey one of the first States in the Union to take such a step. By contrast, the Bush administration has been in constant denial that environmental dangers to our planet exist. So, therefore, we hope that the Nation will take this seriously.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. JONES of Ohio). Members should not traffic the well while another Member is speaking.

FUNDING FOR TROOPS IN IRAQ

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, efforts to cut off funding for our troops in harm's way is really unacceptable and would be a devastating message for us to send to our men and women in our Armed Forces, to their families, and to the families of our Nation's fallen heroes. No one knows this better

than SAM JOHNSON, our colleague from Texas, who is a true American hero; and I commend him for introducing House Resolution 511. I would commend it to every Member of this body to support.

And I want to say to the Democrats that if they should mean what they say and do what they mean, they really cannot have it both ways on this vote. To vote to support the troops in the field and then not give them the equipment and the supplies and the resources that they need to win is deceptive, it is dangerous, and it puts the lives of American servicemen and -women at risk.

The Democrat majority must understand the stakes in Iraq. Certainly, our constituents understand the stakes that are there, both in the terms of human life and global stability.

I would commend H.R. 511 to our colleagues for support.

PRESIDENT BUSH MUST BEGIN MOVING IN A NEW DIRECTION

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, last November the American people demanded dramatic changes and provided a substantial Democratic majority. Since the election, President Bush has yet to show he got the message.

While an overwhelming majority of Americans are demanding that the Iraqi Government take more control, the President has, instead, proposed an escalation plan that flies in the face of military experts, the bipartisan Iraq Study Group, Democrat and Republican leaders in Congress and the American public.

While the President continues his failure to listen when it comes to Iraq, I hope tonight he will actually propose some helpful solutions to some of the most pressing concerns of hardworking middle-class Americans like those I represent in the State of Missouri.

This Democratic House has already produced positive results for the American people, passing our promised 100-hour agenda. I hope the President embraces these policies tonight and shows the American people that he has heard their discontent and plans to work with the Democratic Congress that the American people chose to take us in a new direction.

SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in full support of our troops and H.R. 511, legislation reaffirming Congress's support for the troops deployed in a theater of war. Those overseas protecting us from further terrorist attacks and fighting nobly on the Global War on Terror deserve our steadfast support.

The President has recognized missteps and offered a new direction and plan for victory. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have yet to address the issue, except to criticize the President's plan before it has even been implemented. It was Leader BOEHNER and the Republican Conference that have called upon the Speaker to create a select committee on oversight to hold the President and Prime Minister Maliki accountable for progress in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I stand here with pride and offer my full support to the brave soldiers who are helping foster democracy in the Middle East, while, at the same time preventing terrorists from attacking us on our soil. So many Members pledged "We will never forget." Well, that is a promise I made and intend to fulfill.

To our troops, thank you for your dedication, bravery and noble work to make the world and America a better place, following in the footsteps of so many American heroes.

I commend Congressman SAM JOHNSON, an American hero, and urge support of H.R. 511.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD LISTEN TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. MAHONEY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am here today representing Florida's 16th District. Tonight we will listen to the President with the expectation that he will listen to the American people.

Our Nation is facing some of the greatest challenges of our time. From the war in Iraq, to global terrorism, to ending the addiction to foreign oil, the stakes are high and getting higher.

Americans understand the urgency of our challenges. It is time for the President to step up to the plate and offer real solutions that put America on the path to success and security.

I hope the President will offer a new strategy to win the war in Iraq and that that strategy will use diplomacy as its cornerstone, not troop escalation. Let me be clear. I am committed to supporting our brave men and women in uniform, but do not believe their role should be policing a civil war.

We need to turn our energy crisis into an opportunity by investing in domestic production of biofuels and alternative and renewable energies. Last year the President called for an end to America's addiction to oil. And one week later, he cut funding for the development of alternative fuels and energy-efficient technologies. Instead of rhetoric, we need results.

I ask the President to listen to the American people, to the message they sent last November. Our children depend on it.

SEVERE WINTER STORMS IN NEBRASKA

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the serious situation many of my constituents are facing. Recently, a series of severe winter storms and ice storms, more specifically, hit Nebraska, leaving thousands in the Third District without power.

An expedited major disaster declaration for 57 affected counties in Nebraska, almost all in the Third District, was granted, freeing up Federal funds to assist the utility companies and local governments with the immense recovery efforts.

Due to the severity of the storms, thousands of constituents were without power for days and even weeks. They lost wages, food spoiled and expenses began piling up.

During these trying weeks, neighbors, families, friends and strangers have worked together to aid and assist those in need. Donations were made. Generators, gas, food and shelter have poured in to assist those suffering from the effects of the storm.

Utility linemen have been working long hours and even volunteering to repair the shattered grid system.

This difficult time has brought about great personal sacrifice for many Nebraskans, and I strongly commend the volunteers and donors who have come to the aid of those in need.

I urge my colleagues in the House, whether or not your district has been hurt, to remember these folks as we take up tax issues, the AMT and the farm bill.

ENERGY

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker and Members of the House, tonight we will hear the President give his State of the Union address, and I expect and I am confident that he will address energy issues.

I had a meeting this morning with an Assistant Secretary from the Department of Energy, and I believe that we are going to have a chance to have bipartisan effort, Democrats and Republicans, coming together with the President to deal with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and redeveloping and re-energizing our distribution grid throughout the country. This is going to be good for all of America, no matter what side of the aisle you might be on, because it is good for national security. It is good for the climate, and it is good for jobs across this country.

In the Seventh Congressional District of Colorado, which I represent, the suburbs of Denver, we have the pre-eminent laboratory in America and in the world in the National Renewable