Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the

gentleman for the time. The reason I am on the floor, I am like anyone

else in Congress. It is a privilege to serve in the United States House

of Representatives. And every time I go home, like all other Members of

Congress, and I see the people of the Third District of North Carolina,

the home of Camp Lejeune, 60,000 retired military, they want to know

why we are not doing a better job with oversight.

When you read in the papers that a DOD inspector says we cannot find

$8 billion, and yet here we are in the Congress owing $8.2 trillion in

debt, and the American people are out there working hard trying to do

their best, they support our troops, they want us to support our

troops.

But we have a responsibility, and that is to rebuild public trust.

The public has lost faith in the Congress of meeting its responsibility

for oversight. And I join the gentlewoman from Ohio and my other

colleagues, and there are those on the Republican side too, that want

to have an accountability to the American taxpayer.

It is time that we do so. So I ask my colleagues on both sides of the

political aisle, for goodness sakes, let us support the American

taxpayer. Let us do what Truman did, saying to the people during World

War II, we are going to fight this war, and we are going to defeat the

enemy, but we are going to do it in a wise way, we are going to protect

the investment of the taxpayer.

Let's do the same thing in 2006 that he did during the 1940s. I thank

the gentleman for this time, and I close by saying, let's do what is

right. This is a good-government issue. It is time that we have

accountability to the American people.