Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California

for yielding.

It has been so interesting to listen to the debate this evening. I am

reminded of my school teacher grandmother and an admonition that she

would regularly give us to us, which was ``Your actions speak louder

than your words.'' And she would remind us of this time and time and

time again.

And, Mr. Speaker, I can tell you, quite frankly, I think that what we

are seeing is the actions of a majority who are doing their best to

ensure, to ensure, that our men and women in uniform do not have the

funding that they need.

I represent a lot of these military men and women, and I have heard

from them. I am hearing from a lot of the military men and women and

their families, and they feel like the modified withdrawal dates in

this legislative disaster are nothing more than a vote of no confidence

for our troops. They feel that this legislation will embolden our

enemies and send a message to the rest of the world that they believe

that they are more qualified to prosecute a war than the men and women

we are sending to the frontlines. That is something, Mr. Speaker, that

they do disagree with.

Our military leadership deserves the opportunity to fight this war

with the funding and the support that they need to accomplish their

goals. They deserve the ability and the opportunity to win. Yet the

leadership in this House continues to try their best to micromanage the

war and our troops without the funding that they need.

Despite what the majority leader in the other body and his supporters

in the House believe, this war is not lost. Yet this dead-on-arrival

supplemental bill will only exacerbate the problem and put our troops

in harm's way.

I think that we should show our respect for the men and women in

uniform by respecting the job they do. We should do our job: Send the

funding to the troops.