Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Res. 627, a

resolution condemning the abuse of persons in U.S. custody in Iraq.

Every member of this body is outraged and saddened by the recent

reports of the abuse of prisoners in Iraq as well as Afghanistan. H.

Res. 627, however, is a ``feel good'' resolution that fails to empower

Congress to exercise its oversight role in the investigation of the

Iraqi prisoner scandal. Moreover, the resolution before us today was

crafted by a narrow Republican majority, which once again did not

permit either the appropriate committees of jurisdiction or the

Democratic leadership to participate in the process of crafting

language for the resolution.

In effect, this resolution does absolutely nothing. It fails to put

forward any policy language to address the serious issues at hand. Most

egregiously, the resolution fails to offer any form of apology to the

prisoners abused or the Iraqi people.

The United States stands on the precipice of a major foreign policy

disaster. It is long past time to change course in Iraq. Defense

Secretary Rumsfeld and Deputy Secretary of Defense Wolfowitz are the

principal architects of this failed policy. I once again call upon the

President to seek their resignations. Only then will the people of Iraq

and the world perhaps begin to view U.S. actions and intentions in a

more favorable light.