Mr. Speaker, Democratic efforts to change direction in

Iraq forced the President to issue a preliminary report showing that

the Iraqis have not met the benchmarks that they were supposed to. The

failure of the Iraqi Government to keep its promises, coupled with

continued violence on the ground, the death of our soldiers and Iraqi

civilians has led Senate Republicans, at least some of them, to join us

in calling for a new direction in Iraq.

Some Senate Republicans see the writing on the wall, writing on the

wall in both of our House cloakrooms, but is yet to be seen on the

Republican side but for four of our colleagues, for the optometrist

hasn't made his way over there. The situation is getting worse for our

troops. We will see this week whether Senate Republicans mean what they

say and they vote for the Levin-Reed amendment when it comes to the

Senate floor tomorrow and bring our troops home. The amendment is close

to identical with what the House passed with Democratic votes and four

Republicans last week.

The Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki has said they can supply their own

defense and they don't need us any longer. When a host says go home, it

is only correct to go home. He says they don't need us. We aren't

needed. We need to bring our troops home and not have them needlessly

die.