Mr. Speaker, what a deaf President we have. The American

people told him loud and clear on November 7 that we want to change

course in Iraq. He doesn't hear them.

The Iraq Study Group told him loud and clear we must change course in

Iraq and certainly not escalate; he doesn't hear them.

His generals tell him that more troops won't do any good, will simply

increase American casualties; he hears them, but he fires them and gets

generals that will tell him what he wants to hear.

There is nothing more clear today than that the civil war in Iraq is

a civil war, that there is no function for the United States to try to

help one side against the other in that civil war. Indeed, one could

make the case we picked the wrong side, and that we must withdraw our

troops. We must tell the Iraqis that we are withdrawing, and we are

withdrawing on a timetable. You make a deal with each other, you live

together or fight your own civil war, we are not going to do it for

you.

Mr. Speaker, for that we should not escalate. We should pass

legislation in this Congress saying funds that are appropriated can be

used only to protect the troops and to withdraw them.