Mr. Speaker, the American people are demanding that this

Congress take action to responsibly end the war in Iraq and bring our

troops home safely. If the results of last November's election were not

clear enough, a poll released last week indicates that a majority of

Americans look to Congress and not the President to extricate ourselves

from this dangerous mess. Day after day we hear about Republicans

``questioning'' the President's stay-the-course strategy.

But mere words that grab headlines will not guarantee the responsible

disengagement of our troops. Congressional action can and will.

Earlier this month, the House passed the Responsible Redeployment

from Iraq Act, a plan that would bring our troops home by April of next

year. Sadly, the measure received just four Republican votes. Rather

than join our efforts, most Republicans continue to block meaningful

attempts to end this war.

Mr. Speaker, it is one thing to raise questions, but actions speak

louder than words. This week Republicans get another chance. I urge my

colleagues on the other side of the aisle to listen to the American

people; take action now and bring our troops home.