Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the

majority party's Iraq supplemental appropriations bill. I returned from

Iraq last week where I met with our troops. The one question I was

asked repeatedly was, I told them

that I do support them. Unfortunately, this bill does not.

Right now, we have the A-Team in Iraq and they are producing results.

I saw it firsthand:

Sunnis working with Shia and the United States Marine Corps in the

al-Anbar province.

Sunnis looking forward to the next elections.

An oil distribution plan that is on the brink of completion.

The majority supplemental bill is simply defeat on the installment

plan. How can Congress convey our support for the troops in Iraq and at

the same time pass a bill which pulls the rug from the very people we

claim to support? Plain and simple, this supplemental as written by the

majority is a blueprint for defeat.

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and pass a clean

supplemental bill that provides support to those who are fighting and

dying. We owe them that much.