Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, President Bush declared that

major combat operations in Iraq were over. To that point, we had lost

139 soldiers. Over the last 4 years, due to the administration's

incompetence and lack of planning, thousands more U.S. troops have been

killed and wounded, hundreds of billions of dollars of U.S. taxpayer

money has been spent, and now Iraq is consumed by a civil war that the

President is asking our troops to referee.

It was way too soon for the President to declare mission

accomplished, but 4 years later, the President seems content to tell

our soldiers that their mission is not going to be accomplished any

time soon.

By vetoing the Iraq supplemental last week, the President ignored the

voices of the American people, his own military generals and this

Congress. He can no longer afford to be that stubborn. The President

must work with the Congress to come up with an agreement on how to move

forward. He can't believe that this Congress is going to roll over and

rubber-stamp his failed policies like past Republican Congresses have

done.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats refuse to allow the status quo to continue. It

is time we accomplish our mission in Iraq.