Mr. Speaker, today I voted present on H. Res. 612.

I vote present when a resolution appears well-meaning but its

language is flawed.

H. Res. 612 is referred to as the ``Iraq Victory Resolution.'' The

term victory means many things to different people. This resolution

does not define ``victory'' and is therefore unacceptably vague.

The resolution concludes that the House has ``unshakable confidence''

that the United States will ``achieve victory.'' Some would define

victory as attaining all of the results promised by the administration

at the time U.S.

forces invaded. I am not absolutely certain that we will achieve all of

the results promised by the administration in the winter of 2002-2003.

Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in congratulating the Iraqi

people for electing a new parliament that will govern Iraq for the next

4 years, and for doing so in the face of great danger. I especially

commend our troops for their heroism in Iraq and for their tremendous

sacrifice for their service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, we had the opportunity to send a strong bipartisan

message to the people of Iraq and to our troops. I am afraid that this

resolution falls short.