Mr. President, it is irresponsible for Congress to

operate this way.

With the provisions in this bill, Congress is deserting our

commitments to our military leaders and telling them that none of it

matters, the war is over and your mission is done. Congress, with this

bill, is reneging on the war and sending our men and women in uniform a

demoralizing message.

I am committed to giving our military, led by General Petraeus, time

and resources to try to calm Baghdad.

I understand the deep national unrest over the course of the war. I

do not support an open-ended commitment in Iraq. The Iraqi government

must do more.

But effectively abandoning our military effort at this time poses a

treacherous threat to the United States and the region.

We should do right by our troops, give them the resources they need

and work with the Iraqis toward solutions that will bring our Armed

Forces home at an appropriate time.