Mr. Speaker, I know that good people disagree on

this war, but, in my heart, this bill betrays our troops, ensures

defeat and guarantees that when our fighting men and women come home to

America, the terrorists will follow.

This bill cannot stand on its merits, but is brought with promises of

spinach and peanuts and pork.

Not content to let our soldiers win this war, this bill instead

substitutes a brilliant military strategy that gives our enemies this

timetable: America will raise a white flag next year, but if you fight

harder, we will quit sooner.

Thank God General George Washington wasn't hamstrung with such

brilliance.

After the attacks of 9/11, I recall our enemies predicting America

did not have the backbone or the will to persevere in this war. This

bill proves them right.

On Monday, we buried one of our heroes in our community, Private

First Class Cory Kosters. As I witnessed the remarkable courage and

faith of his family, as I watched his flag-draped coffin presented at

the National Veterans Cemetery surrounded by his friends and airborne

brothers saying their final good-bye, I promised myself I will not quit

on our soldiers, I will not quit on their mission. I will not guarantee

America's defeat, nor allow future generations of Americans to live in

terror because we lack the courage and conviction of the greatest

generations that preceded us.