Mr. Speaker, the House is about to consider H. Res.

561, which represents another missed opportunity for this body. The war

in Iraq defined and drove United States' policy for the last 2 years.

While there are legitimate questions about whether we are as a world

safer today than we were a year ago, this resolution ignores the real

question of how safe the world would be, if we had done it right.

While there was never a doubt about the U.S. winning the war, this

administration ignored the cost of winning the peace. Our young men and

women in

uniform pay the price every day in Iraq for that failure.

Yes, we need to support; yes, we need to unify; yes, we need to

indicate our appreciation for our troops; but more important, we need

to learn from this experience. How do we improve our intelligence and

our military execution so that our soldiers are not unnecessarily put

in harm's way in the future? Our families at home and our troops

overseas deserve for us to do it right.