Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Skelton for

yielding me this time.

They buried Andre Craig, 24 years old, last week. He died in the

service of his country. His family held a press conference prior to

that and said, he was exhausted.

Mr. Skelton has put forward a piece of legislation, not a resolution,

a bill that address the men and women in the armed services, that

addresses the problems that they face on a daily basis in Iraq.

There is a difficult choice today to be made. Our colleagues on the

other side of the aisle are honorable people. They understand as well

exactly what it is

like to go to a funeral service, to look into the eyes of these

families, many who have been deployed three and four times, who are

stretched to the maximum. You know what they are experiencing. It is

hard to reconcile, because we know you are honorable people, the

indifference that seems to lie in the choice between the blind loyalty

to the worst foreign policy endeavor in the history of the country and

the men and women who are there paying for it every single day. You are

right, emotions run deep.

How many more of these services will it take for us to face the truth

and the facts? People have come to this floor and said, well, you know

that the President is going to veto this. One thing we know for sure is

where the President stands and what he has said he will do and how this

will be passed on to another administration. But the thing here is what

we will do, what you will do.

Find your voice. Speak on behalf of the troops. Follow Ike Skelton.