You know, every Member of this House has great respect

for the chairman of the Armed Services Committee from Missouri and the

ranking member from California. And like the American people, most

Members of this House are torn in different directions on this issue of

our involvement in Iraq and what steps we should take. But this

resolution says as a requirement that the Secretary of Defense shall

commence the reduction of the number of Armed Forces in Iraq no later

than 120 days after the enactment of this act.

General Petraeus was confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate, and in

the supplemental, there was a requirement that, on September 15,

General Petraeus would make a report to the Congress on the conditions

in Iraq. And I believe that it is premature to come forth with this

resolution today. But if it comes back at the end of September, after

General Petraeus has made his report, the commanding general in Iraq

with the responsibility, I think that all of us have the responsibility

to read his report, to make an assessment which would be best for the

American people.