Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, there is a statement that says: ``To believe that God

will do everything while you do nothing is not faith but

superstition.'' We have an opportunity to do something, not to wait for

God to do it.

But let me start where I was. On May 21, I buried my dad, a veteran

of the Korean War. He died at age 87. As I stood before that flag-

draped coffin, I thought about all the mothers and fathers, aunts and

uncles, children, nieces and nephews who have buried their loved ones

as a result of this Iraqi war--3,600. I don't want to go to another

funeral, I have been to five. Not another deployment, I have been to

three. Not another memorial, I have been to six.

I want our soldiers to come home as soon as possible. We have an

opportunity to do a deployment that makes sense, that fits within all

that we can do as Members of Congress. Members of Congress, step up to

the plate. Don't be afraid. Vote in favor of this redeployment.