Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Lewis for yielding the

time. And I rise in very strong support of the warfighting

supplemental. Mr. Murtha and I have worked together very closely to

make sure that the numbers were what our soldiers and sailors and

airmen and Marines and Coast Guardsmen were what they needed as they

continue this battle in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The suggestions that I have seen today in the media that this

political group lost or this political group won, I don't believe

either one, any of those. The victory goes to the members of our

military who are going to have the funding that they need to make sure

that they have the equipment that they need and whatever else that they

need.

Something else that it does, it proves that the Constitution is good.

It proves that, by legislators working together along with the

executive branch of government, that we can come to a solution.

Mr. Murtha and I strongly support the dollars. We did disagree, and

there was no secret about that, on the language that he had originally

inserted. But we all worked that out. And during our many

conversations, we both agreed, and we both knew that we had to come to

an agreement, not only here in the House and in the Senate, but with

the White House. And that's what we've done.

And I think this is a good package, and I hope that for those who

might be wavering and thinking that they're not going to vote for this

warfighting supplemental, think about that, because it is a good

package, and it's one that I strongly support.

And I commend leadership on both sides for having been able to come

to this agreement and this compromise on a very good piece of

legislation.

I'm not sure if that's going to be amendment No. 1 or amendment No.

2, but whichever amendment it is, I hope that all of us will vote for

it and support it sincerely and aggressively.