Mr. Speaker, having worn the cloth of this Nation for 31

years, I am at the point where I just needed to say that no one can

call this war in Iraq Bush's war, for it is ours, America's war. We are

in this together. We Democrats need the Republicans if we are to end it

without a failed Iraqi state, and they us. It is not just about getting

out of Iraq; it should be about redeploying out of Iraq so that we can

better ensure U.S. security elsewhere as we leave Iraq with relative

stability.

This resolution has merit, but with less of a strategic plan for a

successful end than the last Iraqi resolution, despite times that are

now more dire in Iraq and, therefore, for us. But it is hopefully a

step towards one, and therefore, it pushes us to know that we do need

the Republicans and a new strategy so that together we can successfully

end this conflict for our betterment.

I see the key as President Bush's statement that our commitment is

not open-ended. We therefore now need to define how to end it together.

I will vote for this resolution, but express my reservation that it

does lack defining how to achieve the end of an open-ended commitment

by a winning strategy. That is why we ultimately need the Republicans

and they, us, to resolve the war successfully by a strategy to bring us

to the end of an open-ended commitment.