Mr. Speaker, on Monday I spoke on this floor about a

conflict I had in supporting this measure because I want peace in our

world and I want our troops to come home. I asked for my constituents

to let me know how they felt.

Hundreds of people responded with e-mails and phone calls, and I

appreciate each of them. They want us to support our troops. They want

to bring our troops home from Iraq, and they want to take care of our

veterans.

The most effective way to accomplish those things is to vote for this

bill. This will be the first step in ending the war in Iraq, taking

care of our veterans, but at the same time, supporting our troops.

I am proud to be a Member of this Congress and to vote ``aye'' today

on this bill.