I thank the gentleman for the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise again today, as I did at the beginning of this

debate, to urge a ``no'' vote on this nonbinding resolution. We have

spent the week discussing the situation in Iraq and trying to find out

what the resolution may really mean.

As I said at the start of this debate, it is hard to imagine a less

qualified group prepared to determine tactics on the ground than 535

Members of Congress, or 535 members of anything else; how many troops

to deploy, where to deploy them, which car to stop. Where does it end?

There is a disagreement on how we should fight this war on Islamic

totalitarianism, but this fight is the challenge of our generation.

Madam Speaker, many of my friends on the other side of the aisle

supported this mission at the beginning. Now they are ready to give up

in the middle of the fight.

Those who join me in opposing this nonbinding resolution have been

saying all week, while this resolution will have no impact because it

is nonbinding, it is still the first step toward cutting funding for

our troops.

Yesterday, we were told that this is the first step toward pulling

the rug out from under our troops in the field.

This week, one of the veterans on our side of the aisle was accused

of being dishonest in her representation when she said that this

resolution we will vote on today did not support those who are

deploying. But the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. Murtha, said just

yesterday, during the unveiling of his strategy to pull the rug out

from under our troops, ``They won't be able to continue. They won't be

able to do the deployment. They won't have the equipment. They don't

have the training, and they won't be able to do the work.''

He also said, ``I think, first of all, we have to be careful that

people don't think this is the vote. The real vote will come on the

legislation we are putting together. This nonbinding legislation is

just an opinion.''

I would say this resolution says just enough not to say anything at

all. We have already heard the Democrats calling the debate this week

the ``bark before the bite.'' Their so-called slow-bleed approach is

the bite that will surely hurt those fighting under America's flag

overseas.

This nonbinding resolution is the first step in an all-too-binding

spiral toward defeat in a fight that we cannot afford to lose.

I am not pleased to vote ``no'' today, but I will vote ``no,''

knowing that the ``no'' vote is the right vote.