Madam Speaker, I rise tonight after another long day

out of disappointment--disappointed that we are not having a real

debate about how we win in Iraq. We have spent countless hours in what

is little more than political theater.

This body is scheduled to meet 145 days this year. Just to open our

doors, we spend over $8 million for each legislative day. This debate

will cost some $30 million, yet it will yield nothing but a partisan

vote on a nonbinding resolution after literally hundreds of speeches

designed to do no more than charge up one's own political base.

I am deeply disappointed. The people expect more from us. They expect

solutions, not grandstanding. They expect both parties to work

together. There will be no victory when our votes are tallied. We will

have every problem we began with, but be even further apart

politically.

Tonight, I believe we embarrass ourselves before our brave men and

women in uniform, before the American people and before our enemies.