Mr. Speaker, the American people are opposed to the

occupation of Iraq. And when I say ``the American people,'' I am not

referring to members of one party or one political persuasion. I am

referring to members of both parties who live in every part of our

country, in cities and towns big and small.

According to the organization Cities For Progress, approximately 300

States, cities and towns have passed resolutions or referenda opposing

the occupation of Iraq. They include places like Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Carrboro, North Carolina; Ladysmith, Wisconsin; Butte, Montana;

Chicago, Illinois; Guilford, Vermont; Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio;

South Charleston, West Virginia; and Sacramento, California.

They also include 17 States that have either passed a State House or

State Senate resolution opposing the occupation or sent letters to

Congress signed by large numbers of the State legislature's members.

These include the red States of Colorado, North Dakota, and Arizona and

the blue States of Minnesota, New Jersey, and Oregon.

In addition, the United States Conference of Mayors has passed a

Bring Home the Troops resolution. In their resolutions the cities and

towns decry the terrible loss of life in Iraq. And they describe how

the soaring costs of the occupation consume resources that would be

much better spent on the needs of local communities.

I want to read portions of a few of these resolutions so that Members

of the House can get a sense of the anguish that's out there in the

heartland.

The resolution passed by South Charleston, West Virginia, declares

that the conflict has

The resolution of the U.S. Conference of Mayors declared that ``the

continued U.S. military presence in Iraq is reducing Federal funds

available for needed domestic investments in education, health care,

public safety, homeland security, and more.'' The Cincinnati city

council echoed that sentiment and said that spending on the occupation

The Chicago city

council warned that the occupation has

The resolution of Cambridge, Massachusetts,

laments the

The city of Bellingham, Washington, said that

The Cleveland

city council declared that

The New Hampshire House of Representatives urged

And the Vermont Senate declared that the escalation of the conflict

More information about these resolutions, Mr. Speaker, can be found

on the Web site of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and I urge my

colleagues to read these resolutions in their entirety. They represent

the true voice of America, the America that has compassion for the

people of the world, believes in international cooperation, and knows

that restoring our moral leadership is the best way to guarantee our

own security and freedom.

Mr. Speaker, the people have spoken. It is time to end the occupation

of Iraq.