Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our troops and in

support of those who lost loved ones in the violence in Baghdad that we

all witnessed today.

On a day that should have shown the unity of our government, we have

seen the parties divided. The Republican resolution has left out

Democratic input.

It has left out our condolences to the families of those killed in

Iraq.

It has left out feelings that our troops must be equipped with body

armor and armored vehicles.

And it has left out steps to correct the intelligence failures in the

run-up to the war.

Even though the Republican resolution leaves out so much, I'm

supporting it to show my support for our troops.

After one year in Iraq our troops are still suffering.

Our soldiers were sent to Iraq without enough of the equipment they

depend on to do their jobs safely and without a plan to bring them

home.

564 Americans and 100 other coalition troops have been killed.

Americans deserve to know what happened in the events leading up to the

war in Iraq.

We demand accountability. We are tired of the President and the

Administration obstructing the 9/11 commission.

We must be able to trust that what the President tells them is true

and we shouldn't have to bear the burden of rebuilding Iraq alone.

American taxpayers are paying almost all the bills, $120 billion and

rising.

We deserve a detailed plan for future spending, so our troops are

guaranteed to get the resources they need.

Part of winning the war on terror is taking care of those who helped

us fight it.

We must ensure our veterans health care, their pensions, and their

survivor's benefits.

But the Administration wants to raise health care costs for over 1

million veterans, increasing co-payments and imposing new enrollment

fees that will cost veterans $2 billion over 5 years.

Just this past month the VA said it will cut 540 positions from the

Veterans Benefits Administration. How can the Administration reduce the

veteran benefit backlog when it cuts the resources needed to help our

veterans?

I keep thinking about the young men in my district that we recently

lost.

There was Corporal Jorge Gonzales. His parents, Mario and Rosa are

from Rialto and they still grieve.

And then there was Corporal Sean Grilley of San Bernardino who was

killed while he was enforcing a curfew.

These brave men and their families deserve truthful accountability so

our soldiers are protected, our veterans are taken care of and our

troops can come home as soon as possible.