I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in support of this resolution.

It's very important that we take a good look at where we are in the

country of Iraq. It's important that we take a good look at the status

of the United States military forces, in particular our Army, which is

being stretched and strained nearly beyond recognition.

You can't help but have a great deal of pride in the young men and

young women in doing the duty upon which they have been called. But it

is important for us to turn the reins, give the baton over to the Iraqi

forces, to the Iraqi Government. We cannot hold their hand there

forever. It is important that we redeploy our forces in a responsible

and reasonable manner so that their readiness is assured in case of

some future challenge.