Mr. Speaker, this is not the first time that I have come

down to this well to demand that our troops come home and that we end

the occupation of Iraq. In fact, I have come to the floor over 200

times. And as the first Member of Congress to call on the

President to bring our troops home and the author of the first

amendment on the floor requiring the President to bring a plan to the

House on how he will end this debacle that he started, you can know

that I am very pleased that this vote is before us today. Finally,

after 4 years here we are.

Many of the provisions in the bill were included in H.R. 508, the

Bring the Troops Home and Iraq Sovereignty Restoration Act, a bill that

I introduced with Representative Lee and Representative Waters. These

provisions will fully fund bringing the troops home, prohibit permanent

bases, give the Iraqi people sovereignty and a sense of hope for their

future.

My colleagues, I urge you to support H.R. 2237. The American people

are asking that we stand up for our troops, and we do that by fully

funding them to bring them home. Bring them home to their families.

Bring them home so that we can end this misguided occupation. By

passing H.R. 2237, we will bring our troops and our military

contractors out of Iraq safely.