Mr. Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to revise and

extend my remarks.

I'd like to thank my colleagues, Congressman Tanner and Congressman

Abercrombie, for their hard work on this issue and their dedication to

a new direction forward in Iraq.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3087.

Mr. Speaker, a change of course in Iraq is long overdue.

The cost of this war is already too high. America has spent over $455

billion and lost more than 3,700 lives in Iraq.

This responsible legislation would require the President and senior

administration officials to develop and submit a comprehensive

redeployment strategy to Congress within 60 days, and every 90 days

thereafter.

Additionally, this bill recognizes that the U.S. Armed Forces and

U.S. civilians have worked valiantly, and that it is time for Iraq to

manage its future.

The bill also notes that when Congress authorized military force in

2002, it was concerned about an Iraqi government that has since been

removed from power.

The brave men and women of America's armed forces have served their

country valiantly and will continue to do so.

But it is time to bring them home from Iraq.

We must refocus our mission on the global threat of terrorism.

As a veteran, I voted against this war in 2002 because no one could

convince me why we needed to be there.

Now, after five years of the President's failed policies, Congress

must take action.

I urge my colleagues to cast a vote for a new direction in Iraq and

for the future security of America, and support H.R. 3087.