Madam Speaker, the Iraq supplemental will be coming to

the floor this week, and it brings together many of the recommendations

that we have heard from the nonpartisan Iraq Study Group, from the

Pentagon and the President himself, but it provides more resources for

our troops in the field and when they come home, and finally provides

accountability for this administration.

First, the legislation demands that the Iraqi Government meet

benchmarks the President himself outlined earlier this year.

Second, the legislation calls for responsible redeployment out of

Iraq at the beginning of next year. The Democratic Congress did not

come up with this date out of the blue. This was in the recommendations

from the Iraq Study Group.

Third, the supplemental includes important funding for our military

that was requested by the Pentagon.

This week marks an important milestone to begin a new direction in

Iraq and begin to phase our troops home, and to bring about a regional

solution for what is going on in the Middle East.