Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the majority

party's Iraq supplemental appropriations bill.

It is baffling that at the precise moment when the surge in Iraq is

producing positive results, the majority party would like to pull the

rug out from underneath our troops.

Violence is down. Sunnis in al Anbar have allied with U.S. forces

against al Qaeda. Baghdad is regaining some sense of normalcy.

By no means can we declare ``victory'' but our troops can rightfully

claim progress. Despite these positive developments, the majority party

wants to withdraw our forces--as if the enemy won't follow us home.

I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: are they prepared

to take responsibility for the disastrous consequences of an early

withdrawal?

Are they prepared to witness the chaos and destruction in Iraq?

Most importantly, are they willing to pass this responsibility on to

the next generation of Americans who may be forced to finish the job we

did not have the courage to complete?

My colleagues are right: we have made a significant financial and

personal investment in Iraq. Let us have the courage of our convictions

to see it through.

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and pass a clean

supplemental bill that provides support to those who are fighting and

dying. We owe them that much.