



SENATE PASSES IRAQ SURRENDER PROVISION, AMERICAN LEGION URGES PRESIDENTIAL VETO



Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-NV, voted for the Iraq withdrawal provision.

Washington, DC (March 27, 2007) – The National Commander of The American Legion criticized an amendment narrowly passed by the U.S. Senate that would add a timeline of withdrawal to an Iraq spending bill.

“You don’t have to be a military strategist to understand the advantage a withdrawal date gives to the enemy,” Paul A. Morin said. “First the House passed a blueprint for disaster and now the Senate passes a recipe for surrender.”

Morin called on the president to honor his promise to veto legislation that includes timetables to withdraw from Iraq. “The American Legion supports the troops. You cannot support the troops if you want them to cut and run. Congress authorized Operation Iraqi Freedom, now it needs to let the troops finish the job.”

Morin pointed out that Congress cut off funding in Vietnam, even though the troops won every military battle. “Let’s not repeat the mistakes of the past. The



American people need to support the troops and their commander in chief, even if Congress won't."

The Senate voted 50-48 for the provision containing the withdraw requirement, which was supported by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-NV. Reid did not seem willing to compromise with the White House, saying that he is "not anxious to strip anything out of the bill."

Morin added that the United States has only one commander in chief. "The American people did not elect 535 legislators to be armchair generals. It is outrageous that Congress would leave our troops on the battlefield without the funding that they need. It's time for the president to veto this surrender bill and for Congress to pass a serious war-funding bill, which would provide the money without the micro-management. I call on my fellow Legionnaires to let their senators and representatives know where we stand on this war."

Contact: Ramona Joyce
(202) 263-2982
Cell, 202-445-1161

Joe March
317-630-1253
www.legion.org
Email: pr@legion.org

[A high-resolution photo of Cmdr. Morin can be downloaded here.](#)

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