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June 26, 2006

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing today to request that you bring H.J. Res. 90 to the floor for a vote before the House recesses for the Independence Day District Work Period. This resolution would declare that the United States opposes efforts by the Government of Iraq to grant amnesty to persons known to have attacked, kidnapped, wounded, or killed members of the Armed Forces or citizens of the United States.

This resolution would send a strong message to the Iraqi government and the Iraqi people that the United States strongly opposes the killing of Americans who are working to promote peace and stability in their nation. With reports showing that 47 percent of Iraqis approve of the attacks on United States forces, this resolution would make it clear to the Iraqi people that committing acts of violence against Americans will not be rewarded with amnesty.

More than 2,500 members of the Armed Forces have given their lives to bring independence to the Iraqi people. Their sacrifices should not be minimized by granting amnesty to these insurgents. As we look forward to celebrating the independence of our own nation, a vote on this bill would tell our troops that the House supports their efforts to bring independence to Iraq and will not stand for their deaths at the hands of radical insurgents.

Just more than a week ago, the House passed a resolution honoring the sacrifices of the United States Armed Forces. H.J. Res 90 would honor their sacrifices with more than words. With the support of the Senate and the President, it would honor them by declaring United States policy. It will carry with it the force of law.

I introduced this resolution with forty-nine of my colleagues and it continues to gather more support each day. The House of Representatives strongly supports our troops and honors their sacrifices. I believe this resolution would pass the House with nearly unanimous support.

Thank you for considering this request to bring H.J. Res. 90 to the floor for a vote before the Independence Day District Work Period. I look forward to your response in the near future.

Sincerely,



JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable John A. Boehner, Majority Leader