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Inglis votes to oppose troop surge

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WASHINGTON – Rep. Bob Inglis voted today against President Bush’s dispatch of more troops to Iraq, joining only 16 other Republicans in a dramatic House vote.

The three other Republican House members from South Carolina cast votes in support of the troop surge, and the state’s two Democratic lawmakers also voted in support. The House voted 246-182 to pass a resolution expressing support for U.S. troops in Iraq but opposing Bush’s plan to send 21,500 more to the theater. “At best, Iraq is engulfed in a sectarian killing spree,” Inglis said on the House floor before the vote. “At worst, Iraq has descended into a civil war. Inglis said sending more Americans into the fray sends the wrong message to Iraqi leaders.

“We want them to know that we are not content to provide an overall security umbrella for their country while they dispatch death squads to improve their sectarian positions,” he said.

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