

# AMERICANS SUPPORT DEMOCRATS ON IRAQ

In poll after poll, the American people have expressed their support for Congressional Democrats' responsible plan to hold Iraq's government accountable and redeploy U.S. troops out of Iraq's civil war so that they may focus on combating terrorism. A poll released yesterday (NBC/WSJ) found that "a solid majority of Americans side with the Democrats." When will President Bush and the rubber-stamp Republicans in Congress listen to the American people and support a change of course in Iraq?

## The Numbers Speak for Themselves:

**56% say they agree more with Democrats** in Congress who want to set a deadline for troop withdrawal, versus 37% who say they agree with Bush. [NBC News/Wall Street Journal, April 20-23]

**58% trust Democrats in Congress** to do a better job handling the situation in Iraq rather than President Bush. [Washington Post/ABC News, April 12-15]

**60% side with the Democrats** in Congress over President Bush on the Iraq supplemental spending standoff. [CNN/Opinion Research Corp, April 10-12]

## AMERICANS SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE TIMELINES

**61%** want to see all U.S. troops withdrawn from Iraq within a year. [CNN/Opinion Research Corp, April 10-12]

**60%** favor setting a time-table for withdrawing all U.S. troops from Iraq by the end of next year. [USA Today/Gallup, March 2-4]

**59%** want their representative to vote for a withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq by August 2008. [Pew Research, March 21-25]

The Iraq bill contains a reasonable timeline for a responsible redeployment of U.S. forces consistent with our national security interests. It follows the goal set by the bipartisan Iraq Study Group of withdrawing U.S. combat troops by March 2008. Troops would then be limited to training Iraqi forces, conducting counter-terrorism activities, and providing diplomatic protection.

## AMERICANS SUPPORT BENCHMARKS FOR SUCCESS

**77%** favor requiring U.S. troops to come home from Iraq if Iraq's leaders fail to meet promises to reduce violence there. [USA Today/Gallup, March 2-4]

The Iraq bill contains the President's own political, economic, and security benchmarks that he says the Iraqi government must meet.

## AMERICANS SUPPORT READINESS REQUIREMENTS

**76%** favor requiring U.S. troops returning from Iraq to stay in the U.S. for at least a year before being re-deployed to Iraq. [USA Today/Gallup, March 2-4]

The Iraq bill requires the Defense Department to comply with their own rules regarding readiness and time between deployments. However, the President may waive this requirement with a report to Congress.