



# **Marsha Blackburn**

---

## **U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TN-7**

Press Contact: Ryan Loskarn  
ryan.loskarn@mail.house.gov  
202-225-3466/202-225-1112

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Monday, January 31, 2005**

## **BLACKBURN RESPONDS TO CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ**

WASHINGTON, DC – Representative Marsha Blackburn (TN-7<sup>th</sup> District) issued the following statement today:

Over the past two days, I've been saddened and disappointed to watch liberal leaders in Washington attempt to downplay the Iraqi elections. The same party seeking to downplay the elections' importance a mere 24 hours ago is now claiming that America has reached a stage in Iraq that warrants an almost immediate withdrawal of our military presence. This behavior is not wise, it's not leadership, and it's based more on politics than the safety and security of the American people and our troops.

We made it our mission to bring significant and lasting change to a region that has created and harbored terrorism, and to abandon that effort halfway through is simply inconceivable. Too many Americans have given their lives for us to cut and run now.

For months liberal politicians in Washington have told a tale of doom and gloom when it came to Iraq. Well, the times have been tough, but there has also been good news of heroism and progress.

Today we should be looking forward with determination and dedication to the mission. There will come a day when we begin bringing our troops home for good, and I join every other American in hoping that day is as soon as possible, but not at the expense of what we've already accomplished. We must continue training Iraqi security forces and supporting this new government, as they build a society we can depend on as an ally in the war on terrorism. God Bless America's active duty, Reserve, and National Guard men and women.

###