

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Co-Chair
Congressional Progressive Caucus

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey
Co-Chair
Congressional Progressive Caucus

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Chairwoman
Out of Iraq Congressional Working Group

February 12, 2007

Dear Representatives Lee, Woolsey, and Waters:

As Chairwomen of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the Out of Iraq Congressional Working Group, we call on you to urge your leadership to allow the many differing views regarding the war in Iraq to be heard during consideration of the Iraq war resolution.

While our views on the proper prosecution of the war in Iraq may differ, we should agree that all views on this issue deserve to be considered. Unfortunately, given recent comments by members of your leadership team, we fear that neither our views, nor yours, will be heard during deliberation of the legislation. It would be an insult to the democratic process if the many differing views on how best to proceed in Iraq were muzzled. As such, we believe any rule constraining or preventing Members from offering amendments to the resolution should be opposed.

On February 7th, the Congressional Progressive Caucus released a statement that noted the Caucus is "...committed to bringing all of the U.S. troops and military contractors in Iraq home in a six-month time frame as part of a fully-funded redeployment plan."

The Chairwoman of the Out of Iraq Congressional Working Group has noted that "The Out of Iraq Congressional Working Group is a newly formed effort whose sole purpose is to be the main agitators in the movement to bring our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan."

Finally, *The Washington Post* reported on January 28th that "A raucous and colorful multitude of protestors, led by some of the aging activists of the past, staged a series of rallies and a march on the Capitol yesterday to demand that the United States end its war in Iraq."

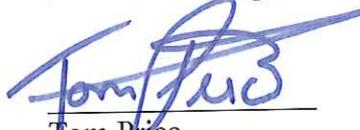
While many of us may not agree with your policy positions on the war in Iraq, we do believe that you should have the opportunity to offer your vision of how best to manage the global war on terror.

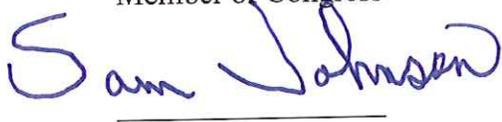
If members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the Out of Iraq Congressional Working Group truly believe that the United States should withdraw our troops from Iraq – and we believe you do – then surely your leadership should allow all Members to have an opportunity to help craft this important legislation through an open amendment process.

Please help us ensure that all Americans have a voice regarding the war in Iraq. Urge your leadership to allow Republican *and* Democratic amendments to the Iraq resolution.

Sincerely,

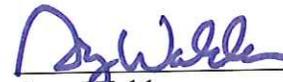

John Shadegg
Member of Congress

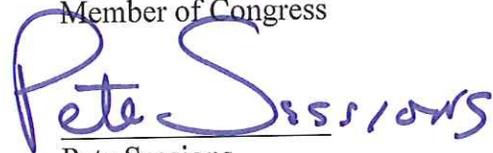

Tom Price
Member of Congress

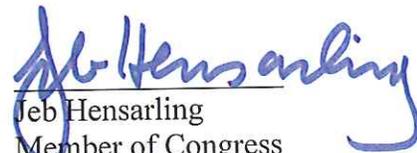

Sam Johnson
Member of Congress


Chris Shays
Member of Congress


Pete Hoekstra
Member of Congress


Greg Walden
Member of Congress


Pete Sessions
Member of Congress


Jeb Hensarling
Member of Congress