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Klein Statement on the Fifth Anniversary of the Iraq War

Washington, D.C. – *On the fifth anniversary of the war Iraq, U.S. Representative Ron Klein (FL-22) issued the following statement:*

“Our troops should be applauded for their tremendous courage and the job they have done in Iraq. Now it is time to rebuild our army and care for our wounded and the families of those we have lost. Our responsibility to our soldiers does not end when they return home, but must be a lifelong commitment that honors the service they have given this country.

“On the fifth anniversary of the war in Iraq, I renew my call for a responsible withdrawal so we can refocus our energy and resources on solving the problems we face here at home.

“We are dealing with a declining economy and neglecting critical domestic priorities, yet we continue to foot a bill of billions upon billions for the reconstruction of Iraq. In spite of this tremendous investment, the Iraqi government is still unable to provide for the most basic needs of their own civilians. The International Red Cross calls the humanitarian situation in Iraq “critical” and General David Petraeus said just last week that there has not been sufficient progress by the Iraqi government.

“Until the Iraqi people stand up, until they can come up with a strategy for political co-existence, I believe that it is my responsibility to the people of South Florida to oppose an indefinite commitment to policing Iraqi streets and footing the bill for their national reconstruction.”

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