

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. J. RES.

Expressing United States policy on Iraq.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. REED) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

JOINT RESOLUTION

Expressing United States policy on Iraq.

Whereas there has been a strong consensus among the senior United States military commanders that a broad-based political settlement involving the three main Iraqi groups is essential for defeating the insurgency;

Whereas the two parts of that political settlement are (1) agreement on a national unity government that serves the interests of all Iraqis, and (2) compromises to amend the Iraq Constitution to make it an inclusive document;

Whereas such a two-part political settlement is also essential to prevent all-out civil war and is a critical element of our exit strategy for United States military forces in Iraq;

Whereas the Iraqi Council of Representatives' approval on April 22, 2006, of the Presidency Council consisting of

Jalal Talabani as President and two Vice Presidents, and the election of a Speaker and two Deputy Speakers is a significant step, as is the decision by the Iraqi political leadership to select Jawad al-Maliki as the Prime Minister designate;

Whereas the Council of Representatives still needs to consider the nomination of Jawad al-Maliki and his still-to-be-chosen Cabinet, including an Interior Minister and a Defense Minister, and still needs to form a committee to recommend changes to the Iraq Constitution;

Whereas under the Iraq Constitution, Prime Minister designate Jawad al-Maliki has 30 days from April 22, 2006, to choose and present a Cabinet to the Council of Representatives for its approval;

Whereas under the Iraq Constitution, the Council of Representatives, at the start of its functioning, is required to appoint a committee from its members which will have four months to present recommendations to the Council for necessary amendments to the Iraq Constitution;

Whereas while the three main Iraqi groups have differing views about the duration of the presence in Iraq of the United States-led Coalition forces, none of them favor the immediate withdrawal of United States military forces from Iraq;

Whereas section 1227 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109—163; 119 Stat. 3465; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) provides in part that “[t]he Administration should tell the leaders of all groups and political parties in Iraq that they need to make the compromises necessary to achieve the broad-based and sustainable political settlement that is essential for de-

feating the insurgency in Iraq, within the timetable they set for themselves”;

Whereas the United States Ambassador to Iraq, Zalmay Khalilzad, has done an exceptional job in working with Iraqi political, religious, and tribal leaders in an effort to achieve consensus on the prompt formation of a national unity government; and

Whereas the American public has become increasingly and understandably impatient with the failure of the Iraqis to form a national unity government: Now, therefore, be it

2 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
3 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

4 That it is the sense of Congress that the Iraqi political,
5 religious, and tribal leaders should be told by the Adminis-
6 tration that—

7 (1) the continued presence of United States
8 military forces in Iraq is not unconditional;

9 (2) whether the Iraqis avoid all-out civil war
: and have a future as a nation is in their hands;

21 (3) the Iraqis need to seize that opportunity
22 and only they can be responsible for their own fu-
23 ture; and

24 (4) completing the formation of a government
25 of national unity and subsequent agreement to modi-
26 fications to the Iraq Constitution to make it more
27 inclusive, within the deadlines the Iraqis have set for
28 themselves in the Iraq Constitution, is—

- 2 (A) essential to defeating the insurgency
3 and avoiding all-out civil war; and
4 (B) a condition of the continued presence
5 of United States military forces in Iraq.

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To require reports to Congress on a national unity government and amending the Iraq Constitution to make it a unifying document.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—109th Cong., 2d Sess.

H. R. 4939

Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. REED)

Viz:

1 On page 126, between lines 12 and 13, insert the fol-
2 lowing:
3 REPORTS TO CONGRESS ON A NATIONAL UNITY GOVERN-
4 MENT AND AMENDING THE IRAQ CONSTITUTION TO
5 MAKE IT A UNIFYING DOCUMENT
6 SEC. 1406. (a) REPORTS REQUIRED.—In furtherance
7 of the findings and sense of Congress set forth in Senate
8 Joint Resolution _____, as introduced in the Senate on
9 April 25, 2006, the President shall, not later than 30 days

1 after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 30
2 days thereafter until a national unity government has been
3 formed in Iraq and the Iraq Constitution has been amend-
4 ed in a manner that makes it a unifying document, submit
5 to Congress a report on United States policy and political
6 developments in Iraq.

7 (b) ELEMENTS.—Each report shall include the fol-
8 lowing information:

9 (1) Whether the Administration has told the
10 Iraqi political, religious and tribal leaders that
11 agreement by the Iraqis on a government of national
12 unity, and subsequent agreement to amendments to
13 the Iraq Constitution to make it more inclusive,
14 within the 30-day and 4-month deadlines that the
15 Iraqis set for themselves in their Constitution, is a
16 condition for the continued presence of United
17 States military forces in Iraq.

18 (2) The progress that has been made in the for-
19 mation of a national unity government and the ob-
20 stacles, if any, that remain.

21 (3) The progress that has been made in the
22 amendment of the Iraq Constitution to make it more
23 of a unifying document and the obstacles, if any,
24 that remain.