



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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War Funding: Setting the Record Straight

There are a lot of accusations flying around town about who is supporting our troops. It's time to set the record straight.

Congress has provided unprecedented funding for our troops.

- Last week the President signed a \$459 billion Defense Bill – an increase of \$39 billion over last year.
- Attached to that bill was \$11.6 billion in emergency funding for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles. That is in addition to the \$5.2 billion Congress provided for MRAPs in September.
- Altogether, the Department of Defense has sufficient enough funding to last through the beginning of next year.

Last week the House of Representatives passed a \$50 billion supplemental to fund the war, but the President has threatened to veto it and his allies in the Senate are filibustering it.

This bill includes reasonable provisions to protect our troops.

- It requires that troops be fully trained and fully equipped.
- It requires all government employees to follow the Army Field Manual rules prohibiting torture.
- It requires the President have a plan for bringing our troops home by December of 2008.

The Department of Defense could have full access to these funds very quickly. All the President has to do is call his allies in the Senate and ask them to release the bill.