



REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT GIVING BUSH A BLANK CHECK



“We could vote for a clear wartime supplemental before supper tomorrow.”
[Adam Putnam (R-FL), Roll Call 3/8/07]

REPUBLICANS REFUSE TO HOLD IRAQIS, ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTABLE

For the past four years, Republicans have refused to hold President Bush accountable. Since the war in Iraq began, Republicans lived by the rule of passing supplemental spending bills “before supper tomorrow,” giving the President whatever he wanted, no questions asked.

Republicans have written a blank check to President Bush 6 times*:

4 Supplemental Spending Bills

2 Emergency Spending Funds in Department of Defense Authorization Bills

**These bills contained no significant changes from the request made by Bush.*

REPUBLICANS REFUSE TO ENGAGE IN A MEANINGFUL DEBATE

“The Republicans, meanwhile, are waiting to strike at whatever [Iraq funding bill] the Democrats come up with.” [Chicago Tribune, 2/28/07]

Republicans remain unwilling to hold this administration accountable and refuse to change course in Iraq. Before having even seen the supplemental, Republicans were already playing politics and threatening to vote against it. Republicans who vote against this supplemental will have to explain why they have voted against funding for our troops, holding the Iraqi government accountable, and increasing our efforts in the War on Terror in Afghanistan.

IT IS TIME FOR A NEW DIRECTION IN IRAQ

“There is no military solution to a problem like that in Iraq, to the insurgency of Iraq...”
[General Petraeus, NY Times, 3/8/07]

House Democrats agree with General Petraeus’ assessment that military action cannot solve the problems in Iraq. It is time for a new direction in Iraq, and the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans’ Health, and Iraq Accountability Act puts us on that path. This Act provides our troops with the equipment they need, requires that Iraqis take responsibility for their own country, refocuses on the war on terror, and establishes a date for a responsible redeployment.