



## **“THE CLOCK IS TICKING” & BOEHNER’S TIME IS UP: WHY WON’T REPUBLICANS SUPPORT A SUPPLEMENTAL WITH THE BENCHMARKS FOR SUCCESS THEY REQUESTED?**

### **Minority Leader Boehner Set a 90-day Timeline for the Surge – It’s Up**

*“I think it will be rather clear in the next 60 to 90 days  
as to whether this plan is going to work.”*

*[Minority Leader John Boehner, 1/23/07]*

House Minority Leader Boehner said that it would be clear within 90 days as to whether or not President Bush’s escalation in Iraq was working. Those 90 days were up on Monday, and even President Bush is giving mixed reports on the escalation’s success. So does Mr. Boehner want to stay-the-course or hold the Iraqi Government accountable?

### **Minority Leader Boehner Said Benchmarks Are a Good Idea**

*“Benchmarks provide a common sense yardstick by which  
to measure whether sufficient progress is being made in Iraq.”*

*[Minority Leader John Boehner, 1/22/07]*

In January, House Republican Leaders called for benchmarks to hold the Bush Administration and the Iraqi government accountable. The Iraq supplemental contains President Bush’s own benchmarks to ensure progress is being made.

### **Republicans Have Made Clear that the Clock is Ticking, So Why Won’t Rubber-Stamp Republicans Support a Reasonable Bill with Goals and Benchmarks for Success?**

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has warned Iraqis that “the U.S. commitment to a military buildup there is not open-ended,” and that “the clock is ticking.” [AP, 4/19/07]

Other Republican Leaders have set their own timelines for success as well. According to Representative Jack Kingston (R-GA), if progress is not being seen by the fall, “a heck of a lot of us will start peeling away,” from supporting the Bush Administration. [NYTs, 4/20/07]