

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

March 21, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

We write to you today to request your support for an open and extended debate on the war spending bill that is expected on the floor later this week.

During the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, the House of Representatives considered war supplemental appropriations bills under open rules, as is the long-standing practice and tradition of the House Appropriations Committee. In addition, the bill combines critical funding for our military and intelligence personnel with controversial changes to strategic policies and \$21.3 billion in spending above the President's request, of which \$9.3 billion is not for activities directly associated with the Global War on Terror. The hybrid nature of the bill necessitates a comprehensive and public debate.

Last month, the House of Representatives considered for four days a non-binding resolution concerning a tactic in the larger strategy in Iraq. Members of the House were denied any opportunity to amend this non-binding resolution. Instead, the Democratic leadership made a commitment at the time to allow all Members of the House an opportunity to express their proposed alternatives at a later date.

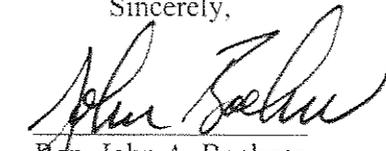
We believe that an open rule for consideration of the supplemental is the only way the House should debate this binding bill. The war spending bill presents an appropriate opportunity for the Democratic leadership to fulfill its commitment by affording all Members the opportunity to amend the bill, and we hereby request that you do so. Furthermore, given that four days were

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devoted last month to the non-binding resolution on Iraq, we believe similar time should be made available for debate on this binding bill, which would set a mandatory timetable for surrender and withdrawal from Iraq.

Sincerely,



Rep. John A. Boehner  
Republican Leader



Rep. Roy Blunt  
Republican Whip



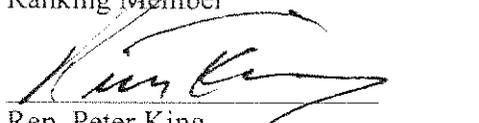
Rep. Jerry Lewis  
House Appropriations Committee  
Ranking Member



Rep. Duncan Hunter  
House Armed Services Committee  
Ranking Member



Rep. Pete Hoekstra  
House Intelligence Committee  
Ranking Member



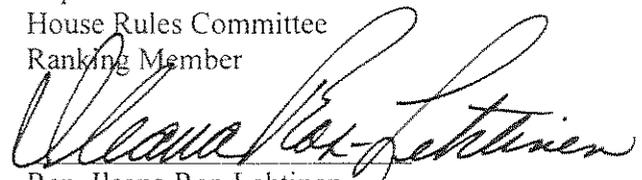
Rep. Peter King  
House Homeland Security Committee  
Ranking Member



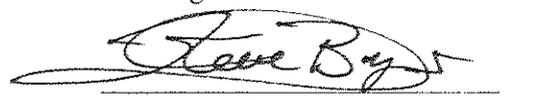
Rep. Adam Putnam  
Republican Conference Chairman



Rep. David Dreier  
House Rules Committee  
Ranking Member



Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
House Foreign Affairs Committee  
Ranking Member



Rep. Steve Buyer  
House Veterans Affairs Committee  
Ranking Member