

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is a bit surreal for Congress to pass a Resolution congratulating a peaceful Iraqi transition on one of the bloodiest days of the insurgency movement. This Resolution seems more an exercise in self deception. I am hopeful that in the coming days, Congress and this administration will focus instead on how to stem the violence that continues to escalate, and to address the deep questions about our policies and management.

Congressional oversight is needed to examine the long term costs and consequences, and to determine what went wrong and how to fix it. It is critical to improving the safety of our soldiers and the people of Iraq who are struggling to rebuild their country.

Until we can be honest with our soldiers, the American public and the Iraqi people I think it is decidedly inappropriate to continue with resolutions of this nature.