

combat unit on the ground you need substantial support forces, including personnel to staff headquarters, serve as military police, provide communications, provide mess facilities, engineering and other services.

The Congressional Budget Office also said that the President has seriously underestimated the cost of troop escalation. While President Bush claims it should not cost any more than \$5.6 billion, the Congressional Budget Office says a 4-month deployment will cost between \$9 and \$13 billion, 12 months between \$20 and \$27 billion. This is a 400 percent underestimate.

Madam Speaker, this is a serious report that cannot and will not be ignored. President Bush cannot expect Members of Congress to support his troop escalation plan when he is not telling us the whole story on the number of troops and the funds involved to make it happen.

#### CONGRESSIONAL INACTION JEOPARDIZES HOOD RIVER COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE

(Mr. WALDEN of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, the failure of Congress to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act amounts to a breach of faith to the almost 600 forested counties across America and 4,400 school districts.

Hood River County, Oregon, is my home and hosts two of Oregon's icons: Mount Hood and the powerful Columbia River, both attractions for outdoor recreation and the dangers that come with it. Surely you remember the December search for the mountain climbers lost on Mount Hood? This event unfolded just miles from my home.

The county paid for this rescue and recovery effort entirely with county payment funds. This included the airplanes, snowcats and equipment for volunteers, radios and medical supplies.

County Sheriff Joe Vampler says, "We will do search and rescue on Federal lands and waterways no matter what but the Nation must share this cost."

County payments also fund many other vital services like the County Health Department's vaccination program for children.

County Commission Chair Ron Rivers says, "The loss of these funds will have a significant impact on all services, including those provided to protect our most vulnerable citizens."

Congress must keep the Federal Government's word to timbered communities and pass H.R. 17. Time is running out.

#### CREATION OF A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF PEACE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my strong support for H.R. 808, as it would create a U.S. Department of Peace.

The importance of peace in the world today is often overlooked due to the severity of constant conflict, but, as a mother and lawmaker, the reality of war concerns me for the future of our Nation and this planet. The promotion of peace, not violence, should be number one on our agenda.

For years, I have worked to raise awareness in the women within our society, and around the world, so that they can spread the word of peace and build a culture of peace in this world.

Women in themselves are a powerful entity, and I believe by working together we as a society can stop the escalation of violence. We can prevail by joining together and building a U.S. Department of Peace. War is not the way, but peace is.

I am proud to support this resolution, creating a U.S. Department of Peace and urge my colleagues' support.

#### SUPPORT REPUBLICAN SENATORS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in disbelief at the actions of the Democratic Senators' resolutions against the United States efforts in Iraq. These very same Senators voted unanimously to confirm General David Petraeus. It is unbelievably hypocritical to undermine the efforts of the very man they confirmed, along with all the brave men and women who serve with him.

The actions of these Senators will simply encourage the terrorists and undermine the U.S. efforts to succeed in Iraq and the war on terror. Republicans want to debate this issue, yet the Democrats only want to pass a resolution. It is time to take a real stand on the issue. If the Democrats want to end the war, then they should stand up and call for it.

The hypocritical actions of the Democrats are wrong. They have offered no plan for success in Iraq and are interfering with the President's powers to execute a war that the Congress has already approved. Democrats must realize there is only one commander-in-chief, and it is his job and responsibility to manage the war as he sees fit.

Mr. Speaker, I support my Republican colleagues in the Senate who want a real debate on this issue and victory in the central front on the global war on terror.

#### NEED TO SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, soldiers don't choose to go to war. Soldiers do not allocate funds for which they use

to fight the war. Soldiers may face danger, soldiers may risk their lives and sometimes lose their lives, but the least a Nation can do that sends a young person into harm's way is to fully support, fully equip and fully allow that young person to be successful to protect their own lives.

And yet this administration has not done that. We failed in the early part of this war to provide Kevlar. This administration has failed to provide Humvees that were fully armored for our young people, and now what we see is tens of billions in backlog on maintenance so that the equipment that young people are relying on to protect their lives and to fully do their duty is unavailable.

This is wrong, and we must call attention to this wrong, and we must do something about it now.

#### NO END BUT VICTORY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as debate continues surrounding President Bush's new way forward in Iraq, I hope all sides are heard.

I am a 31-year veteran of the South Carolina Army National Guard. I have four sons serving in the military, the eldest of whom served for a year in Iraq. I sit on the Armed Services Committee, and I have visited Iraq six times and Afghanistan twice. I am committed to my family and our Nation's survival and prosperity, all of which will be threatened should we not triumph in the global war on terrorism.

As elected public officials, Members of Congress have an obligation to debate war strategy and exercise congressional oversight. If by conscience they disagree with the President's direction, they have a responsibility to put forth an alternative plan.

Political posturing in the form of nonbinding resolutions, however, brings nothing to the debate regarding the protection of American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF POLICE OFFICER SHAWN JOSHUA DEAN WILLIAMS

(Mr. SHULER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of Police Officer Shawn Joshua Dean Williams. Officer Williams died while responding to a fellow officer's call for assistance last Thursday night in Old Fort, North Carolina. He was only 23 years old.

I offer my condolences to his wife, Shannon Kirby Williams; his young daughter, Rye-Lee Alexis; his parents, Max Suttles and mother Holly Williams; and all of his family and friends.