

LARSON OPPOSES AMNESTY FOR IRAQI INSURGENTS

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Introduces resolution opposing amnesty for Iraqis who kill Americans

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Representative John B. Larson (CT-1) today introduced a resolution to declare that the United States opposes efforts by the Government of Iraq to grant amnesty to persons known to have attacked, kidnapped, wounded, or killed members of the Armed Forces or citizens of the United States. The resolution would also urge the President to immediately notify the Government of Iraq of the United States' position.

The resolution came about after Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki discussed the possibility that the Iraqi government would grant amnesty to those who have killed American soldiers. One of the Prime Minister's top aides stated that those who attacked Americans would be granted amnesty. While, the Prime Minister has denied these claims, no specific policy has been announced and reports still indicate that there are plans to grant amnesty to those who have killed Americans.

Larson stated: "More than 2,500 members of the Armed Forces have given their lives to bring peace and stability to the people of Iraq. With reports showing that 47 percent of Iraqis approve of the attacks on the United States forces, this resolution sends a clear message to the Iraqi people that those committing acts of violence against Americans will not be rewarded with amnesty. Members of the Armed Forces, journalists, humanitarian workers, and other Americans have been killed by those involved in the so-called resistance. Their sacrifices should not be minimized by granting amnesty to these insurgents. This resolution will carry the weight of law and the House must act immediately."

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