

## LARSON URGES PRESIDENT TO OPPOSE AMNESTY FOR IRAQI INSURGENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 26, 2006

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WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Representative John B. Larson (CT-1) today urged President George W. Bush to oppose amnesty for Iraqi insurgents who kill Americans by signing H.J. Res. 90 into law if it comes before his desk. Larson had already requested that House leaders bring H.J. Res. 90 for a vote by the House of Representatives before the legislators break for the Independence Day district work period. The following is the text of the letter Larson wrote to President Bush:

June 26, 2006

The President of United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing today to request your support for H.J. Res. 90. This resolution would 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. I have already requested that Speaker Hastert and Majority Leader Boehner bring this resolution to the floor for a vote before the House recesses for the Independence Day District Work Period.

This resolution would send a strong message to the Iraqi government and the Iraqi people that the United States strongly opposes the killing of Americans who are working to promote peace and stability in their nation. With reports showing that 47 percent of Iraqis approve of the attacks on United States forces, this resolution would make it clear to the Iraqi people that committing acts of violence against Americans will not be rewarded with amnesty.

More than 2,500 members of the Armed Forces have given their lives to bring independence to the Iraqi people. Their sacrifices should not be minimized by granting amnesty to these insurgents. As we look forward to celebrating the independence of our own nation, a vote on this bill would tell our troops that the House supports their efforts to bring independence to Iraq and will not stand for their deaths at the hands of radical insurgents.

Just more than a week ago, the House passed a resolution honoring the sacrifices of the United States Armed Forces. H.J. Res. 90 would honor their sacrifices with more than words. With passage in the Senate and your signature, it would honor them by declaring United States policy. It will carry with it the force of law.

I introduced this resolution with forty-nine of my colleagues and it continues to gather more support each day. The House of Representatives strongly supports our troops and honors their sacrifices. Likewise, a number of Senators have voiced support for this policy. I believe this resolution would pass both chambers with nearly unanimous support.

Thank you for considering this request to sign H.J. Res. 90 into law if it comes before your desk. I look forward to your response in the near future.

Sincerely,  
JOHN B. LARSON

Member of Congress

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