

## Congressman John B. Larson Statement on 4th Anniversary of War in Iraq

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WASHINGTON- Congressman John B. Larson (CT-1) issued the following statement today on the 4th anniversary of the war in Iraq, which is on Monday March 19th.

On Monday our nation enters the fourth year in Iraq. As we approach this anniversary, we should reflect and be grateful for those who have made the greatest sacrifices---our troops and their families. They have the greatest courage and patriotism and have made the greatest sacrifice.

As we mark this anniversary, we must also reflect upon how we got into this irresponsible, war of choice that has cost our nation over 3,200 precious American lives, countless more Iraqis and wounded tens of thousands. This ill conceived war has cost our nation billions of dollars and has left a footprint on our budget that our children's children will pay for. The President's irresponsible policy of preemption and unilateralism has failed and has cost our nation's standing in the world.

We must bring this war to an end. The American people are far ahead of the Congress on this issue and made their voice heard loud and clear this past November. This week, Congress will debate whether we continue giving President Bush a blank check for this unending civil war, or finally require real accountability and safely and strategically bring our troops home.

Larson is Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus

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