

Sanchez Statement on HR 3087

Rep. Loretta Sanchez

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October 2, 2007

- I rise today in support of House Resolution 3087, and I thank my colleagues for bringing this bill to the floor today.

- I voted for this bill when it passed the Armed Services committee, with bipartisan support, on a vote of 55-2.

- We are here today, because after more than 4 years of the President's war, it has become painfully clear that the administration did not adequately plan for this war, and had no understanding that a substantial investment of American troops would be necessary beyond the initial invasion.

- When the President declared "Mission Accomplished" on May 1, 2003, we had lost 139 of our troops in Iraq and the President thought our military mission in Iraq was done.

- However, since that day, during what the Department of Defense considers "Post-Combat Operations," we have lost 3,660 of our troops-3,660 men and women who have performed their missions courageously.

- The American people have called for the start of redeploying our troops from Iraq. Whether the President wants to face it or not, our troops will be redeployed from Iraq.

- Today, with this legislation, Congress is mandating that proper planning be done-so that when the redeployment process begins, our troops will be brought home to their families safely.