



RESOLUTION

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

January 22, 2007

Not One More Dollar for Occupation and War in Iraq

Whereas, the electorate gave a clear and unambiguous mandate to the new Congress to end the occupation of Iraq and to bring all U.S. troops home now; and

Whereas, the election echoed what polls have been indicating for months; and

Whereas, the Bush administration intends to seek an additional \$160 billion to sustain the continuing occupation and military operations in Iraq on top of \$70 billion recently approved by Congress for that tragic enterprise; and

Whereas, our soldiers—the men and women risking their lives in Iraq—come from America’s working families. They are our sons and daughters, our sisters and brothers, our husbands and wives; and

Whereas, such an appropriation will enable the Bush administration to continue the war for another two years, denying the message the American people sent in November, and despite the over 3000 U.S. troops who have already died and more than 20,000 who have been wounded, many of whom will be disabled for life; and

Whereas tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians have been killed since 2003, 36,000 in 2006 alone;

Whereas, a vote for this appropriation is a vote for continued war and occupation in Iraq, which is unjustified ; and

Whereas, there are sufficient funds already available to secure the speedy safe evacuation of all U.S. troops, de-commissioning of military installations and related actions associated with a

complete military withdrawal from Iraq; and

Whereas, our returning troops should be afforded all resources and services available to meet their needs. Our members should return to their jobs, with seniority and benefits; and

Whereas, every dollar spent on the Iraq War is a dollar added to the U.S. debt which will be paid by our children and their children, and also squeezes needed social programs here at home; and

Whereas the American and Iraqi governments have not kept their promise to create a political environment for democracy in Iraq, as far as workers are concerned; and

Whereas severe workers rights abuses and anti-democratic restrictions being placed on Iraqi trade unions, such as the continuing ban on free and independent trade unions, and the failure to investigate the wave of targeted assassinations of trade unionists, undermines the rights of all Iraqis;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO calls upon all members of Congress to vote against any appropriation for military operations and occupation in Iraq, except for the immediate safe return of all U.S. troops; and

Be it further resolved, that the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO calls upon members of Congress to ensure Iraqi trade unionists enjoy full rights of freedom of association and that all attacks on trade unionists are investigated;

Be it further resolved, that the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO urges all union members, their families and friends and other forces in our community who reject this escalation to communicate these messages to members of Congress, and;

Be it further resolved that Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO urges its affiliates to inform their members of this pending appropriation and its

meaning and consequences and to encourage them to undertake such communication; and in furtherance of these objectives, the Council will help to circulate the USLAW petition to Congress on this subject and encourage its affiliates to do also so; and

Be it further resolved, that the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO endorses and urges all union members, their families and friends to participate in the January 27 National March on Washington to End the War; and

Be it finally resolved, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to all members of the Washington D. C. and Maryland Congressional delegations, and to the AFL-CIO and Change to Win federations with a request that these bodies take similar actions.

Passed unanimously by the delegates at the January 22, 2007 Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO