



RESOLUTION

Stay the Course in Iraq

WHEREAS, the United States has committed itself to assisting in bringing to power a freely-elected and secular Iraqi government that represents the will of the Iraqi people, that is able to provide internal order and stability, that has a functioning economy, that is strong enough to defend its people and territory against external threats, that threatens none of its neighbors, and that is open to normalized relations with the international community; and

WHEREAS, the threat from foreign terrorist organizations within Iraq has diminished, while some cells still remain in hiding and are able to conduct local operations to destabilize the government and to inflict harm upon the population; and

WHEREAS, communal and confessional rivalries and suspicions still mark the political process and threaten the long-term stability of the government and the peace; and

WHEREAS, the economy of Iraq remains fragile; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Iraq has approved a new Status of Forces Agreement permitting United States and coalition forces to remain in Iraq through the end of 2010, in order to continue to support the national authority and to ensure security operations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Military Order of the World Wars, at its Midwinter General Staff Meeting in Huntsville, Alabama, February 10–15, 2009, urges the President and the Congress to stay the course in Iraq, pending the achievement of our stated goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the expert professional advice of the military commanders responsible for the region should be given great weight and consideration in determining the force balance, the rate and the timing of any proposed redeployment of the United States military presence in Iraq.