



Military Families Speak Out

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February 15, 2007

Dear Senators and Members of Congress,

We are members of Military Families Speak Out, whose loved ones are currently serving in Iraq, or are soon to be deployed or re-deployed to Iraq. No one is more concerned about the safety and well-being of our troops than we are – they are our sons, daughters, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, fiancés, grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, mothers and fathers.

You will soon be voting on President Bush's supplemental budget request that will allow the war in Iraq to continue. Many of you are saying that in order to support our troops, you must once again fund the war. The President is not asking for funding for our troops – he is looking for funding to continue this war that is so damaging to our loved ones and all of our troops. The most important thing you can do to protect those who swore an oath to protect us all is to vote *against* this supplemental appropriations request.

We know that there are funds available to bring our troops out quickly and safely. If more is needed, funds from the Department of Defense budget could be re-programmed for this purpose.

Senators and Members of Congress, you need to know that by continuing to fund this war and leaving our loved ones in Iraq, you are abandoning them.

Make no mistake about this, you can not both oppose *and* fund this war.

You may be afraid for your political futures, and afraid of being “swift-boated” if you were to vote to de-fund the war. We are afraid for the lives of our loved ones. Three U.S. servicemen and women are dying each day, along with countless Iraqi children, women and men. We are afraid that if we are lucky enough to get our loved ones home, they will return as hollow-eyed strangers suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The Constitution gave Congress the ‘power of the purse’ for a reason. We urge you, we expect you, to use this power now. And we will stand with all who will now support our troops by voting against the funds that allow this war to continue.

But if you vote to continue funding the war in Iraq, it will no longer be President Bush's war. It will be yours. If you fund it, you've bought it and you own it. And we will remember.

We are asking that you show the courage and leadership that our loved ones have shown when they signed up to defend the Constitution of the United States. Ending this war is the right thing to do. And you are the people who can make it happen.

Don't abandon our troops – de-fund this war.

Sincerely,
[See four signature pages attached]

Dena Ciferri Fort Bliss, TX Husband in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Marney Collins Sims Cypress, TX Brother in the Army currently in Iraq under stop-loss	Karen Diedrich Green Bay, WI Son currently serving in Iraq	Susan G. Jones Chillicothe, OH Son in the Marines currently serving in Iraq
Mark T. Ivie San Jose, CA Son in the Army recently redeployed to Iraq	JoAnn Sohl Old Bridge, NJ Son in the Army currently serving extended deployment in Iraq	Rossana Cambron Whittier, CA Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Laurel E. Perry Safety Harbor, FL Son is a flight medic currently serving in Iraq
Michael and Valeri Murphy Austin, TX Son in Army currently serving in Iraq	Corey VanBuskirk Scranton, PA Husband in the Marines serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	W. David Stephenson Medfield, MA Son in the Army deployed this month for Iraq	Yolisma Hernandez Elgin, IL Brother serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq
Angela Summers Spring, TX Son in Army serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Jessie Kimes Twentynine Palms, CA Husband in the Marines serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Gloria L. Leigh Dayton, OH Grandson serving in Iraq	Barbara A. Young Jackson, NH Daughter in the National Guard currently serving in Iraq
Roberta Furst Seattle, Washington Husband in Army serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Sarah Lamb Newburg, MO Husband in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Dagmar Taylor Kelkheim, Germany Husband in the Army serving 2 nd tour in Iraq	Sarah L. Lindsey Ft. Leavenworth, KS Husband serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq
Paula Scott Bucyrus, MO Son in National Guard serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Debra K. Johnson West Jordan, UT Son in the Army serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Linda and Phil Waste Hixson, TN 3 sons and 2 grandchildren in military Son currently serving in Iraq	Virginia E. Delwiche Grass Valley, CA Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq
Julie Anderson Wood River, IL Son in the Air Force currently serving in Iraq	John and Donna Evans Clearwater, FL Son is a flight medic currently serving in Iraq	Lynn Kerman Ferndale, CA 2 nephews currently serving in Iraq	Rhonda Earman Richmond, VA Son serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq
Julie Akers Newtonville, NJ Son in the National Guard currently serving in Iraq	Jeni-Ann Kren Clovis, CA Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Mike Byrne Auburn, CA Son-in-law serving 2 nd tour in Iraq	Meghan Geshel Flagstaff, AZ Husband in the Army currently serving in Iraq
April Dreeke Pittsburgh, PA Brother in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Jan Kearney Apple Valley, CA Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Noelle Stewart Killeen, TX Brother-in-law serving in Iraq Husband scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 2 nd tour	Valarie Fletcher Seymour, MO Son currently serving in Iraq on 2 nd deployment
Julie Fredette Kernersville, NC Husband currently serving 14 month deployment in Iraq	Norm and Cathy Peacock Bloomington, IN Son currently serving in Iraq Daughter soon to deploy to Iraq	Emily Miller Golden, CO Brother in Army National Guard currently serving in Iraq	Jacqueline Satterfield Philadelphia, NY Husband on 2 nd year-long deployment to Iraq
Tina Marie Minetto Charlotte Hall, MD Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Nancy Arnosti Chadds Ford, PA Cousin in Army Reserves Currently Serving in Iraq	Jennifer Ellen Docimo Audubon, NJ Brother serving in Iraq since March, 2006 recently extended 3 months	Sherry L. Johnson Merced, CA Son in the Navy currently serving in Iraq
Susan Martimo Roseville, CA Son in the Marines serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Danielle Cannata Washington, DC Husband in Army Reserves Currently serving in Iraq	Kent and Vicki Robertson Hillsborough, NC Son serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Mrs. Trang Nguyen-Beardsley Germantown, MD Husband currently serving in Iraq
Crystal Mathisrud Ellsworth, WI Husband in Army National Guard currently serving in Iraq	Serena Daughtery Kansas City, MO Husband in Iraq on 2 nd tour	Sherry Decelles Charlotte, NC Son currently serving in Iraq	Sarah Burgess Bowie, MD Fiancé currently serving in Iraq
Deborah Barquinero Mcminnville, OR Son in the Army serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Marie Hodges Rock Springs, WY 3 Grandsons serving in Iraq	Maggie Pondolfino Portland, OR Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Norm and Cathy Peacock Bloomington, IN Son currently serving in Iraq Daughter soon to deploy to Iraq

Bryan, Katherine and Cayden Boeskin Loudonville, NY Brother in the Army Serving 15 month deployment in Iraq	Annette Berhost Sterling, CO Son is a Marine on his 3 rd deployment to Iraq	Brynlyn Lehmann Seattle, WA Son in the Army currently stationed in Iraq	Michele Jackman Two Harbors, MN Son in the Army serving extended 2 nd tour in Iraq
Eric and Sheila Welch Forreston, IL Son currently serving in Iraq	Edith R Davis Wheat Ridge, CO Son in Army currently serving in Iraq Already given date for his 3 rd deployment	Zohreh Whitaker Gold River, CA Son in the Army currently stationed in Iraq	Nancy Townsend El Cerrito, CA Son in the Air Force serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq
Tiffani Evans Marietta, Ga Brother serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Amberle Wright Anchorage, AK Husband in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Suzanne Brownlow Damascus, OR Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Jennifer Tullis Evergreen, CO Husband serving 2 nd year-long deployment in Iraq
Chrissy Kirchoefer St. Louis, MO Brother currently serving in Iraq	Samantha Wienke Manhattan KS Husband is in the Army serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Paul and Mary Vogel Altoona, KS Son currently serving in Iraq 3 other sons previously served	Joann Ekdahl Hancock, MI Son currently serving in Iraq
Sharon Walker Buffalo, NY Son in the Army serving extended deployment in Iraq	Terry Bennett Auburn, WA Son in Army currently serving in Iraq	Madelaine Miller Strauss New York, NY Nephew serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Amy Christman Oceanside, CA Husband in Marines serving 2 nd deployment to Iraq Scheduled for 3 rd deployment
Heike Braxton Atlanta, GA Son currently serving in Iraq	Haeley Derby Salt Point, NY Husband in National Guard currently serving in Iraq	Akino Carroll Junction City, KS Husband in the Army serving 2 nd deployment in Iraq	J. Anton Hayle, Cornwall, U.K. 20-year-old son is a Marine currently stationed in Iraq
Sandra L. Garth Saginaw, MI Son in the Army serving his 2 nd deployment in Iraq	Lynn Marie Moore St. Cloud, MN Son in the National Guard currently serving in Iraq	Teresa Al-Saraji Novi, MI Husband in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Will Nichols Staten Island, NY Son in the Army currently serving on 2 nd full-year deployment in Iraq
D. R. Brown Maryville IL Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Marie Kay Hansen Tracy, CA Son in the Marines currently serving in Iraq	Ruby Dee Ashcraft Anchorage, AK Son-in-law currently serving in Iraq	Laura Adams Knudson Denton, TX 19 year old son in Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq
Carel C. DeWinkel Salem, OR Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Anne Chay Andover, MA 19 year old son in Army currently serving in Iraq	Judy Tanner MA Son-in-law deployed to Iraq	Sharon Diane Looper Winston-Salem, NC 21 year old son in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 2 nd time in April
Martha B. Garza Brownsville, Texas Husband currently on 3 rd deployment in Iraq	Mindy White Leitchfield, KY Husband in the National Guard currently serving extended deployment in Iraq	Kim Rosario Brooklyn, NY 21 year old son currently serving 2 nd tour in Iraq	Adriana Ercolano Arlington, VA Husband in the VA National Guard scheduled to deploy to Iraq
Christine and Michael Lyons Schaumburg, IL Son currently serving in Iraq	Elizabeth Wheat Seattle, WA Son in the Army currently serving in Iraq	Kanchan Boston, MA Cousin currently serving in Iraq	Lori Bannister East Aurora, NY 18 year old son in the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq in August 19 year old nephew in the Army scheduled to re-deploy to Iraq
Beverly Wiskow Inverness, FL Son-in-law serving in Iraq	Stacy Hafley Columbia, MO Sister in National Guard currently serving in Iraq	Virginia Milwaukee, WI Nephew in the Marines serving extended deployment in Iraq Son scheduled to return to Iraq for a 2 nd deployment	
Catherine Kessler Hinesville, GA Husband in the Army deployed to Iraq for 2 nd time in less than 3 years	Becky Thomson Sumner, Washington Son currently serving in Iraq	Liz Rivera Goldstein Port Townsend, WA Nephew currently serving in Iraq	Debra Rosenthal Monterey, CA Husband in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq
Katlin Brown Minneapolis, MN Boyfriend in the National Guard serving extended deployment in Iraq			

James R. Crate Rochester Hills, MI Son in the Navy scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 3 rd time in March	Clara Clark La Porte, TX Grandson in the Air Force about to be deployed to Iraq for 3 rd time	Susan Sutherland-Martin Clackamas, OR Son in Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq in September	Inger Portland, OR 22 year old son in Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq this year
Pamela Osborne Denver, CO Son in the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq in next month will have had only 1 month of intensive training	Alan A. Huot Granby, CT Son in the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq in March	Ivan Goldman Rancho Palos Verdes, CA Son in Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 2 nd time this spring	Ben Sears Philadelphia, PA Son in Air Force scheduled to deploy to Iraq in April
Dave Howerton Greensboro, NC 19 year old Son in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq in April	Mindy Ratcliff Fort Stewart, GA Husband in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 2 nd time	Melida A. Lowery Long Beach, CA Son in Navy scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 3 rd time	Paul Alexander Toth Grand Blanc, MI Son in the Army scheduled to re-deploy to Iraq this summer
Sheryl G. Salt Lake City, UT Nephew in the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq for the 3 rd time	John Rider Swanzey, NH Son in the Army will deploy early to Iraq in April	Al Bernard Marrero, LA Son served two times in Iraq, scheduled to be deployed to Iraq for 3 rd time	Mikal Hutto Pasadena, Texas Son returned from 1 st deployment in Iraq in November about to deploy for 2 nd tour
David D. Fukuzawa Troy, MI Son in the Army scheduled to deploy early to Iraq without sufficient training	Nancy Carre Heron, MT Children's father in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq	Ellen Rogovin Hart Elkins Park, PA Nephew in Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq this month	Elaine Brower Staten Island, NY Son in the Marines, served 2 tours of duty in Iraq will be redeployed in the next few months
Kenneth & Toni Campbell Denison, TX 22 year old son in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 2 nd time	Mary L. Rasmussen Warner Barracks Bamberg, Germany Husband in the Army currently in training to deploy to Iraq	Linda Esposito Cortland, NY Son-in-law in Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 3 rd time in Summer/Fall	Jila Nealy Fort Bragg, NC Husband scheduled to deploy to Iraq in the fall
Jerry and Jackie Simmons Lacey, WA 22 year old son in the Army about to be deployed to Iraq	Joan Margeson Ann Arbor, MI Son in the Navy scheduled for 2 nd deployment to Iraq in April	Tammara Rosenleaf Helena MT Husband in Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq before year's end	Peter Mullins Orange, CA Cousin scheduled for 3 rd deployment
Elizabeth Reyes Rome, NY Son the Army scheduled for 2 nd deployment to Iraq this summer	Kay Handy Odessa, TX Grandson in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq	Janet C. Cantwell Trevor, WI Son in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq this summer	Lisa Gifford Englewood, CO Son in the Army due to deploy for 2 nd tour in November Daughter in the Marines due to deploy to Iraq in October
Kathy Hazelton South Euclid, OH Son the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq in March	Tom and Jan Merrick Beaverton, OR Son in the Army scheduled to deploy to Iraq this summer	Clara Salloom Drexel Hill, PA Daughter and son-in-law in Army both scheduled to deploy to Iraq	Christine Hall Falling Waters, WV Son in the Army scheduled for 3 rd deployment to Iraq
Anna F. Armstrong Atlanta, GA Son the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq	Sharon Broderick Takoma Park, MD Son scheduled for 2 nd deployment to Iraq in August	Lionelle Hamanaka New York, New York Son in Army about to deploy to Iraq	Steve & Karen W. Salem, OR Son in the Marines training cut short to go to Iraq in April
Maria McCadden Port St. Lucie, FL Son the Marines scheduled to deploy to Iraq in June or July	Deborah Collier Pinckney, MI Son in Marines preparing for 3 rd deployment to Iraq	Sherrie Roper-Mother Courtney Conner-Sister Mark Anastasia-Father Carl Roper-Step Father Helen Craton-Grandmother Fort Pierce, FL Loved one scheduled to be deployed to Iraq in July	Tina Smarro Cohoes, NY Son deploying for 2 nd tour in Iraq in 3 weeks
	Kathryn D. Struck Dubuque, IA Sons in National Guard and Army Son in the army scheduled to deploy to Iraq for 2 nd time		Connie Moret Minneapolis, MN Son being redeployed to Iraq in September

Dorothy Fannin
Westdale, NY
Son in the Marines
deploying to Iraq in one week

Jean Herrmann
Elgin, IL
Grandson preparing to re-
deploy to Iraq

Donald King
Artesia, NM
Son in the Army
preparing for 2nd deployment
to Iraq

David Lambert
Fort Wayne IN
One grandson scheduled to
redeploy to Iraq soon
2nd grandson in training
will be deployed when
training is complete

Teresa Dawson
Gahanna, OH
Son in the National Guard
scheduled to redeploy to Iraq

Linda A. Shinn
McLean, VA
Son is currently scheduled for
2nd deployment
he was injured on his first tour

Dariana Donovan
Peoria, IL
Son scheduled to deploy 2nd
time to Iraq
Daughter-in-law
scheduled to deploy to Iraq

Cristina Chapman
Brooklyn, NY
Brother is a Marine
scheduled to deploy to Iraq
in August

Paula Rogovin
Teaneck, NJ
Son scheduled to be deployed
to Iraq before end of February

Katherine Tordonato
Oceanside, CA
Husband in the Marines
scheduled to deploy to Iraq
for 2nd time in two years

Maria Castillo
Bayside, NY
Brother scheduled to deploy to
Iraq

Sarah Tyler
Charlestown, MA
Son in the Army
preparing for his 2nd deployment
to Iraq

Edwin Lainhart
Yellow Springs, OH
Stepson being deployed to Iraq
in March

Maria L. Calabrese
Springfield, OH
Son in the Marines
scheduled to deploy to Iraq
in March

Sarah Schneider-Firestone
Columbia, MD
Brother in the Army
scheduled to deploy to Iraq in
April

Rick Hanson
Minnetonka, MN
Son in the Marines
preparing for 2nd deployment
in March

Ainsley Broussard
Richmond Hill, GA
Son in the Marines
deploying to Iraq this month

Debbie Gray
Prunedale, CA
Son in the army
deploying for 2nd deployment to
Iraq for 1 year

James Lindsay
Mansfield, MA
Sister in the Air Force
scheduled to be deployed
for 3rd time to Iraq

Sepideh Tapp
San Antonio, TX
Husband in the Army
scheduled to be deployed to
Iraq in September for 2nd tour
he was injured on his 1st tour

Elynne and LLoyd Hering
Boulder, CO
One son in the Air Force
about to deploy to Iraq
another son served in Iraq
with the Marines

Meggan Gardner
St. Paul, MN
Brother scheduled to re-deploy
in March

Earl and Kathie Lois
Burlington, WI
Son in the Army
currently in training to go to Iraq

Lisa Seeb
Anchorage, AK
Son in the National Guard
currently serving in Kuwait
awaiting deployment to Iraq

Catherine Smith
Liberty, MO
Oldest son was
paralyzed in Iraq
Second son was due to be out
of the Army in September
scheduled to deploy to Iraq
in August

Elisabeth Langlais
Rotonda, FL
Daughter in Marines
scheduled for 3rd deployment
in March

Ted and Janice Pratt
Susanville, CA
Son about to deploy for 2nd time

Linda Gurley Chase
Kennebunk, ME
Son in Air Force
Deploying this summer to Iraq

Marge Haracz
Mundelein, IL
Son will deploy this summer

Kathy A. Kelly
Kansas City, MO
Son returned from 3rd
deployment to Iraq, scheduled
to re-deploy

Jamie Catlin
Edmond, OK
Husband in Army National
Guard scheduled to deploy

John H. Wooden
LaPorte, IN
Son in Marines
expected to deploy this summer

Patricia Richards
Antioch, CA
Son in the Marines
scheduled for 3rd deployment
to Iraq

Roberta Kassig
King George, VA
son in National Guard
Scheduled to deploy to Iraq

Claire Andre
Boston, MA
Husband in the Reserves
serving in Iraq since last
summer