

PEACE RESOLUTION adopted by CCDC executive committee 3/12/08

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Chester County Democratic Committee (CCDC) recognizes the long and proud history of current and former residents of Chester County in defending our nation during times of war and crisis and;

Whereas the CCDC honors the bravery and sacrifice of the men and women in daily_danger of death or injury now absent from their families and jobs to serve in combat zones for the United States Armed forces and the Pennsylvania National Guard and;

Whereas, the United States under false pretenses initiated combat operations in Iraq on March 19, 2003 and such operations continue today, almost 5 years later;

Whereas over 3,931 United States servicemen and servicewomen have lost their lives in the current war in Iraq and over 29,005 wounded according to Pentagon counts and;

Whereas over 151,000 Iraqi men, women and children have died as a result of this war up to June, 2007 according to estimates by the Iraqi Health Ministry. Other estimates run as high as 1,000,000 dead and;

Whereas this war has cost US taxpayers \$440 Billion according to the Congressional Budget Office and has diverted federal funds for domestic use such as education, healthcare services including for returning veterans, housing, infrastructure improvements, social services and homeland security and;

Whereas Pennsylvania taxpayers' portion of this funding has amounted to \$17.4 billion for the cost of the Iraq war through 2007. Congressional District 6 portion amounts to \$1.2 billion. Congressional District 7 portion amounts to \$1.3 billion. Congressional District 16 portion amounts to \$1 billion according to calculations by the National Priorities Project and furthermore;

Whereas in Pennsylvania alone for the same amount of money, the following could have been provided:

- 287,644 elementary school teachers for one year or
- 4,041,735 people with health care for one year or
- 20,916,030 homes with renewable energy for one year or
- 1,211 new elementary schools or
- 401,077 public safety officers for one year or
- 267,410 port container inspectors for one year and;

Whereas over 300 cities, towns, and states have passed similar resolutions and proclamations since the beginning of the Iraqi war therefore:

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved by the Chester County Democratic Committee (CCDC), of the State of Pennsylvania, that:

- (1) The CCDC urges the Federal Government and the State of Pennsylvania to immediately commence a planned, orderly and rapid withdrawal of all military personnel from Iraq;
- (2) The CCDC urges our elected Federal officials to vote on war funding accordingly;
- (3) A copy of this resolution is to be forwarded to President George W. Bush, Governor Ed Rendell, Senators Arlen Specter and Bob Casey, and Congressmen Joe Sestak, Jim Gerlach and Joe Pitts.