



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

NEWS RELEASE

OCTOBER 16, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: JON SCHNEIDER
(202) 225-3826

BISHOP STATEMENT ON \$87 BILLION IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL BILL

Washington— Congressman Tim Bishop talked on the House Floor today about the \$87 Billion Supplemental bill to fund military operations and rebuilding in Iraq.

“I am frustrated that the American people are being asked to pay an additional \$87 billion for Iraq, and this is only the tip of the iceberg of what will ultimately be a commitment that will grow to hundreds of billions of dollars. I believe we need real answers and accountability in terms of benchmarks from the Administration rather than a blank check and blanket assurances that all is well.

“We cannot afford to pour billions into Iraq, give greater tax cuts to millionaires and still meet the needs of working families. I am fearful that working families will lose out in this unbalanced equation. That is why I have proposed an amendment to reduce the size of the tax cut that goes to millionaires. This common-sense amendment allows us to carry-out our responsibilities in Iraq, without abandoning our responsibilities to the American people.

“We cannot just wash our hands of Iraq—as a result of the decision to invade— we have a real responsibility there. But when I attend Town Hall meetings, I am reminded that Congress also has a responsibility to create jobs, provide a prescription drug benefit through Medicare and not pass along crushing debts to the next generation.”

#