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***ROSENDAHL CALLS FOR THE END OF THE WAR IN IRAQ
Councilmember Calls for Federal Government to Redirect War Funding for Domestic Needs***

LOS ANGELES- In an effort to end an unjust war and redirect much-needed funding for domestic needs, City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl today called for the end of the war in Iraq.

Rosendahl today introduced a resolution calling for an immediate and complete withdrawal of United States military personnel from Iraq.

“This resolution should send a very clear message to the federal government that the City of Los Angeles does not support this war,” Rosendahl said. “We want our troops and resources back home.”

The resolution, which was seconded by Councilmembers Bernard Parks, Ed Reyes, Janice Hahn, Jose Huizar, Jan Perry, and Herb Wesson urged the federal government to redirect financial resources used for the war in order to address neglected domestic needs including healthcare, education, mass transit, infrastructure and homeland security.

“This war has diverted funding that could improve the quality of life for Los Angeles residents,” Rosendahl said. “Our city is in tremendous need of mass transit, affordable housing, and improved infrastructure, and should not have to forego federal dollars because of an unjust war.”

The resolution also urged the federal government to provide medical, psychological, financial, and educational assistance for war veterans. Since the start of the war, more than 3,500 members of the United States Armed Forces have been killed and more than 25,300 have been wounded.

Rosendahl, a Vietnam-era army veteran, said that war veterans deserved to receive comprehensive assistance from the federal government.

“Our soldiers have served with honor and distinction in this war,” Rosendahl said. “Many of our young men and women have been killed and far more have been wounded. Those who return home should be given the best care we can provide.”

The United States is currently spending \$2 billion per week to occupy Iraq. More than \$4.5 billion in tax revenues have been diverted from Los Angeles to support the war and the subsequent occupation of Iraq.

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