

## For Immediate Release

Veterans For Peace: [www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org)

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### **Veterans For Peace calls on Congress to use their power of the purse to De-fund the War and Bring the Troops Home Now!**

Veterans For Peace calls on Congress to stop playing political games with President Bush and use their power to de-fund the war. Yesterday Bush vetoed a \$124 billion Iraq war supplemental bill sent to him by the Democrat led Congress. Explaining his reasoning to the press he stated, "Setting a date for withdrawal is setting a date for failure and that is irresponsible."

"Veterans For Peace opposed the bill sent to the President. Congress should have sent the President legislation to de-fund the war and provide funding to bring our troops home immediately. Instead they sent him a huge compromise bill that allowed the continuation of the war. But their political games did not work." states Elliot Adams VFP's National President. VFP is an organization of military veterans from before WWII to the current conflict in Iraq.

Adams goes on to say, "The President is demanding total compliance and continues to evoke September 11, 2001 to scare us. We call on Congress to take decisive and strong action to bring the troops home now. It is time to end this illegal war in Iraq. While Congress and the President play games people are dying. The next bill must have teeth to stop the war this year with Republican and Democrat support.

"Veterans For Peace has been an active opponent of the administration's Iraq policy. They spoke out in opposition to the build up of troops before the war and helped start the Bring Them Home Now campaign in the months following the invasion. Veterans For Peace has called for the impeachment of President Bush and Vice President Cheney.

National Executive Director Michael McPhearson states, "Setting a date for withdrawal is setting a date to begin a new policy. Bush is the one who is irresponsible. It is irresponsible to continue a failed policy. We call on Congress to abandon their timid halfhearted attempts to limit the president. We demand both Republicans and Democrats use the power of the purse to de-fund the war, bring all the troops home and fund their recovery and healing. We have troops on their 4th tour of duty - perhaps their 5<sup>th</sup>. Post traumatic stress is sky rocketing and tens of thousands of troops have severe physical challenges. We call on veterans and citizens across the country to take action to stop the war. It is not enough to be against the war. You must now do something about it."

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Veterans For Peace is a national organization founded in 1985. It is structured around a national office in Saint Louis, MO and comprised of members across the country organized in chapters or as at-large members. The organization includes men and women veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, other conflicts and peacetime veterans. Our collective experience tells us wars are easy to start and hard to stop and that those hurt are often the innocent. Thus, other means of problem solving are necessary.