

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 10, 2007

Dear Colleague,

It is time for us to chart a new course in Iraq. That is why we intend to introduce legislation to base future U.S. strategy in Iraq on the comprehensive, bipartisan recommendations of the Iraq Study Group (ISG). We invite you to join us.

We believe the recommendations of the ISG should form the basis of a bipartisan consensus about how to move forward. Our bill, the "Iraq Study Group Recommendations Implementation Act of 2007," puts forth a comprehensive military, political, economic and diplomatic strategy to transition the United States' mission from one of combat to support. It was developed in consultation with the co-chairs of the ISG, Secretary of State James A. Baker, III and Congressman Lee H. Hamilton.

In the preface of the ISG report, the co-chairs wrote:

"Our political leaders must build a bipartisan approach to bring a responsible conclusion to what is now a lengthy and costly war. Our country deserves a debate that prizes substance over rhetoric, and a policy that is adequately funded and sustainable. The President and Congress must work together. Our leaders must be candid and forthright with the American people in order to win their support."

The group of ten that comprised the Study Group came from disparate political parties, professions, and worldviews. They consulted with nearly 200 leading officials and experts including senior members of the Government of Iraq, the United States Government and key coalition partners, and they received advice from more than 50 distinguished scholars and experts from a variety of fields. That they were able to reach unanimous agreement on a new way forward in Iraq is proof that we too, can find common ground. We hope that you will consider this legislation as a means to do just that.

If you would like more information, please contact Grant Leslie of Senator Salazar's staff at 202-224-5852 or Matt Sonnesyn of Senator Alexander's staff at 202-224-4944.

Sincerely,



Ken Salazar
United States Senator



Lamar Alexander
United States Senator