

Congressional support for strong UIGEA regulations from the Treasury Department, add list of illegal Internet gambling to FinCEN and OFAC lists, block transactions, create a system for reporting illegal sites to the DOJ (Internet, phone, mail), enforce prosecution of illegal online gambling operations.

Your support of UIGEA's integrity and your opposition to contrary legislation.

Congressional support for U.S. withdrawal from WTO obligations that jeopardize UIGEA.

Internet gambling represents the most invasive and addictive form of gambling in history. Speed, accessibility, availability and anonymity make Internet gambling the perfect storm for gambling addiction. Internet gambling also creates fertile ground for criminal activity and threatens homeland security by potentially funding terrorist activity.

More than 230 million Americans access the Internet, many of whom are children and adolescents. Internet gambling extends beyond state borders, beyond democratically enacted laws and is piped directly into millions of homes. Before Congress passed UIGEA, nearly 3,000 online casinos could be accessed instantly with the click of a mouse.

Since its passage, UIGEA has severely cut unlawful U.S. profits to foreign gambling interests. Now these Internet casino operations are willing to spend millions of dollars influencing Congress to gain legal access into U.S. homes. In fact, the UC Group (a leading payment-service provider in the U.K.) claims to be "leading the initiative" behind Rep. Barney Frank's bill, H.R. 2046. The misinformation campaign is in full swing, and Congress is the target. You should be aware of several bills that threaten the integrity of UIGEA:

Rep. Frank's bill H.R. 2046—far-reaching legalization of Internet gambling, providing online casinos with exemptions from federal and state laws.

Rep. Wexler's bill H.R. 2610—exempts poker and "games of skill" from UIGEA.

Rep. McDermott's bill H.R. 2607—licenses and taxes Internet casinos.

Foreign gambling interests are also pressuring the World Trade Organization (WTO) to force the U.S. to legalize Internet gambling. They claim that the U.S. is obligated to legalize gambling because it committed to free trade in "recreational services," and a WTO panel agreed. Now the U.S. is seeking to amend its trade commitments to make clear that Congress never intended to turn over to the WTO its right to set gambling policy. Congress should return the favor to the U.S. Trade Representative by supporting these negotiations.

Again, thank you for your time and service in preserving families. We hope for your ongoing support of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act in the upcoming months.

Sincerely,

TOM MINNERY,  
*Senior Vice President,  
Focus on the Family  
Action.*

GUY C. CLARK,  
*Chairman, National  
Coalition Against  
Legalized Gambling.*

GARY BAUER,  
*President, American  
Values.*

ROBERTA COMBS,  
*President, Christian  
Coalition of Amer-  
ica.*

PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY,  
*President and Found-  
er, Eagle Forum.*

TOM MCCLUSKY,  
*Vice President for  
Government Affairs,  
Family Research  
Council.*

KEITH WIEBE,  
*President, American  
Association of Chris-  
tian Schools.*

DONALD E. WILDMON,  
*Executive Director and  
Founder, American  
Family Association.*

#### ENSURING MILITARY READINESS THROUGH STABILITY AND PRE- DICTABILITY DEPLOYMENT POL- ICY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 3159. If it were a sincere attempt to address deployment-to-dwell schedules, I would be inclined to support it. Our troops have been rotating frequently; it is a serious issue that calls for a serious discussion.

H.R. 3159, however, is yet another sound bite masquerading as policy, and is illustrative of the entire congressional debate on Iraq thus far.

Not once have we had a serious deliberation regarding how to extricate ourselves from our current dilemma. We have only considered take-it-or-leave-it measures designed to inflict political damage; we have yet to make a serious attempt to find consensus on the most vexing foreign policy conundrum of our time.

I am dissatisfied with the conduct of the war, and I am eager to see an end to the casualties. Regardless, we must accept the fact that our actions will have long term consequences for the United States, for Iraq, and the entire Middle East. We must put more thought into our exit than we did our entrance to Iraq; legislation like H.R. 3159 does not suffice.

Yesterday at the Rules Committee, my colleague FRANK WOLF offered an amendment expressing the sense of Congress that the way forward in Iraq would be to implement the recommendations of the Iraq Study Group. I was a cosponsor of this amendment, and I was disappointed the Rules Committee yet again denied us an opportunity to debate this important measure.

Madam Speaker, we are in a difficult spot in Iraq. In such circumstances, it makes sense to gather the best minds our country has to offer, from across the political spectrum, and ask their advice as to how we should proceed. That's what we did when we created the Iraq Study Group, and their recommendations represent a blueprint for an orderly way out of Iraq.

In my opinion, we should embrace these recommendations. At a minimum, we should debate them. I continue to look forward to the day that occurs.

Despite my misgivings, I would have supported this legislation had the majority supported the motion to recommit. This stipulated the deployment timetables proposed by the

Democratic majority could go into effect. The Secretary of Defense, however, would have to certify they would not cause the tour of any unit already deployed to be extended. He would also have to certify they would not increase the operational risk to any deployed unit.

These were common sense measures worthy of support. Unfortunately, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle rejected them, and I am compelled to vote against the bill.

#### ENSURING MILITARY READINESS THROUGH STABILITY AND PRE- DICTABILITY DEPLOYMENT POL- ICY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I voted in support of the Ensuring Military Readiness Through Stability and Predictability Deployment Policy Act of 2007, which mandates a minimum period of rest and recuperation for units and members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces between deployments to Iraq.

At a time when our generals warn that the Army is at a breaking point, this is an important stand in support of troop readiness and keeping faith with our military families. It is also another step forward in forcing the responsible drawdown of our troops from Iraq and ending the war. I believe we must bring our troops home as quickly as possible and work to stabilize Iraq through political and diplomatic efforts. I will continue to support any legislation that moves us closer to the end of this national nightmare.

TRIBUTE OF DR. GEORGE V.  
IRONS, JR.

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to commend the outstanding achievements of Dr. George V. Irons Jr., native Alabamian, who has treated the hearts of Americans, literally, for over five decades as one of our nation's foremost cardiologists.

Dr. Irons' accomplishments began at an early age. As a high school junior, he won the prestigious Bausch and Lomb National Science Award, based on a nationwide scientific talent search—written competitive examinations sponsored by the University of Rochester, New York. He graduated from Woodlawn High School with a straight "A" record—first in his class—and served as president of his student body. At Howard College (now Samford University), he completed a rigorous four year pre-med curriculum in 35 months with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. For his excellence in scholarship, leadership and service, he was awarded the John R. Mott Trophy, and as the outstanding graduating senior he won the Birmingham Exchange Club Trophy, Danforth Award, and ODK National Award. He