

Washington, DC - Congressman Charles Gonzalez (TX-20) issued the following statement in response to the President's veto of the Iraq Accountability Act:

"I am disappointed with the President's decision to veto legislation that accomplishes what he has failed to do for over four years - provide a responsible plan for redeployment of our troops out of harms way in Iraq. On the fourth anniversary of the President's "Mission Accomplished" declaration, our troops unfortunately find themselves in the midst of a bloody civil war with a Commander in Chief who is dedicated to an open-ended commitment to a failed "stay the course" policy," said Gonzalez.

"The brave men and women of our military have accomplished all that has been asked of them, but the sectarian differences and the resulting violence in Iraq is an Iraqi problem that can only be solved politically and diplomatically by the Iraqi people. Regardless of the number of American troops we deploy and the length of their deployment in Iraq, it remains that the sectarian differences can only be resolved by the Iraqi people. Our troops deserve responsible leadership in Washington that does all in their power to pull them out of harm's way, away from a bloody Civil War. Sadly, the President has squandered an opportunity to provide that much needed leadership," he added.

###