

RESOLUTION NO. M-1658

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA
URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
IMMEDIATELY COMMENCE PLANS TO END THE OCCUPATION OF
IRAQ AND BRING ALL UNITED STATES TROOPS SAFELY HOME**

WHEREAS, the City Council and citizens of the City of Olympia, Washington support the women and men serving in the United States Armed Forces in Iraq and recognize the sacrifices that each of them is making; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Olympia has a strong connection to men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces and is home to numerous families with loved ones currently serving in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the human cost of the war in Iraq now stands at more than 3,000 United States soldiers killed, over 47,000 non-mortal American casualties and untold numbers of military personnel returning home with untreated Post Traumatic Stress Disorder only to experience severely reduced VA benefits; and

WHEREAS, the economic cost of this war now exceeds \$450 billion, with estimates of total costs during and after exceeding \$2 trillion, while the basic services of government in this country have been cut, limiting access to health care, education and public safety to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, our soldiers have now been placed in harm's way between sides in a civil war, forced to determine who is and who is not the enemy and to provide policing and urban security for which they have not been adequately trained or provided with essential safety equipment; and

WHEREAS, this war was based on the false premise that Iraq had nuclear and biological weapons of mass destruction, the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 and Public Law 107-243 cited Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction as a primary reason for the use of force, and on January 12, 2005 President Bush officially declared an END to the search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, the killing and torture of civilians violates standards of international law and is an unspeakable crime against humanity, and the Iraqi civilian mortality rate has increased substantially since the war began; and

WHEREAS, war is inherently dehumanizing for all people, causes destruction and waste on an unprecedented scale, and has caused significant environmental and ecological destruction to Iraq which will take decades, if not centuries, to correct; and

WHEREAS, Iraq, as a sovereign nation with a constitution, operating government, and having held elections, should be free to exercise its right to self-determination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Olympia, Washington on behalf of its citizens, urges the President and United States Congress to act swiftly and decisively to immediately commence plans to end the occupation of Iraq and bring all United States troops safely home.

PASSED BY THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL this 6 day of February

Mark Trutzel
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Jane Rasmussen Kirkem
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bob C. Starbank
CITY ATTORNEY

YAGENL GOVTRES\2007\IRAQ RESOLUTION.DOC