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**SCHAKOWSKY: NON-PARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE FINDS NO NEED FOR EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS FOR U.S. ARMY OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL IN IRAQ** WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today said that according to the non-partisan Congressional Research Service (CRS), there is no immediate need for Congress to pass an emergency supplemental appropriations bill for military operations in Iraq.

According to the CRS memo, the U.S. Army has enough funds for military personnel through June 2004 and for operations and maintenance through April 2004. According to the report, other branches of the Armed Services would need funds after the Army.

"President Bush and the Republican leadership can no longer blackmail members of Congress into voting for an \$87 billion blank check for the Bush Administration in the name of our brave soldiers. The non-partisan CRS report is proof that the Bush Administration has enough money to support our troops without yet another emergency funding bill from Congress," Schakowsky declared.

In April, Congress voted for a \$79 billion wartime emergency supplemental and just recently, for a nearly \$400 billion Pentagon budget

"There is plenty of time to answer in detail all of the questions raised by Republican and Democrats alike about how the money for Iraq was spent and will be spent without compromising our obligations to the troops or the Iraqi people," Schakowsky concluded.

Schakowsky has been critical of the Bush Administration for leaving the troops without basic needs like body armor and armored Humvees. "Clearly, this was due to poor planning by the Bush Administration instead of a lack of funds."