

MARCH 16, 2003

**SCHAKOWSKY COMMENDS "PEACEMAKERS AND PATRIOTS" RALLYING IN CHICAGO FOR PEACE AND AGAINST WAR IN IRAQ**

CHICAGO, IL - In a statement to *"peacemakers and patriots"* rallying for peace and protesting a possible war in Iraq, U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) said, *"Though the signs of war may be growing, so is the opposition, and until the violence begins, I refuse to accept its inevitability. There is still a way out. There is still time, and you are leading the way."*

Below is Schakowsky's statement:

*"Greetings Peacemakers and Patriots. Thank you and congratulations. I am certain that without your clear voices joined by millions of others around the world, we would be at war today. Even as you express your opposition, you should rejoice in your own power and effectiveness."*

*"You have not only warded off war, you have engendered serious discussion and doubt about the incredibly dangerous doctrine of pre-emption and what that means for the future of our planet."*

*"Though the signs of war may be growing, so is the opposition, and until the violence begins, I refuse to accept its inevitability. There is still a way out. There is still time, and you are leading the way."*

*"I know we share a vision of a 21st century in which the United States uses its superpower status to be a leader for peace, strengthening international institutions and helping them to be guarantors of safety and security; giving hope to the poor and oppressed; inspiring and building democracies by example. Thank you for leading us toward that vision. Thank you for your commitment to peace."*