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A Promise to Keep up the Pressure

Congress's War Over the War

By Peter Slevin

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Lest there be any doubt where Rep. Jan Schakowsky stands, her house is the one with the two red-and-

The Illinois Democrat, one of the most outspoken Iraq war opponents in Congress, was unimpressed by

"We have been bludgeoned with the notion that unless you support endless war, you don't support the tr

When Schakowsky says "people," she is speaking of a constituency deeply frustrated with the Iraq war a

Political triangulation here tends to be not only undesirable, but also unnecessary.

"I love this district," Schakowsky said, beaming. "I can say, 'The emperor has no clothes.' "

Constituents including Dickelle Fonda, a leader of the North Shore Coalition for Peace and Justice, are u

A number of Democratic leaders said last week that they will shift their strategy to seek incremental cha

Frustrated war opponents are counting on Schakowsky to stand firm.

"In her heart, Jan knows what's right," said Fonda, a psychotherapist who helps organize fortnightly peace

For her part, Schakowsky said she will not vote for money that "does not help end the war." She has me

"I think the fight matters," Schakowsky said, sitting in her sunny back yard. "It is very unsatisfying to peo

"The reason I think it isn't futile to do that is because -- despite what one may hear if you sit in Congress

"I think if we provide the leadership and the fight, there's a certain contagion about that," Schakowsky sa

Michael McConnell, regional director of the American Friends Service Committee, is a constituent who b

"They're going to try to pull some troops back next summer as they go into the election, so the Republica

If troop levels are cut by about 30,000, as Bush proposes, about 130,000 U.S. troops will be in Iraq at th

"The House, we know, has the votes to set a withdrawal date, and I think we should keep sending it to th