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Military Mom Speaks Out at Senate Judiciary Hearing: Support Our Troops by De-Funding the Iraq War!

Washington, D.C. At the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing considering Congress's war powers held on Tuesday, January 30, 2007, Military Families Speak Out member Tina Richards from Salem, Missouri, seized the opportunity to tell Senators that the most supportive thing they can do for U.S. troops is de-fund the war in Iraq.

Ms. Richards came to Washington, D.C. last week to join Military Families Speak Out members from 31 states at Saturday's Iraq War protest, and call on Congress to support our troops by voting against the upcoming supplemental appropriation that will allow the war to continue. She had planned to spend today sight-seeing in Washington, D.C. Instead, after receiving a call from her son telling her he had just been contacted by a Marine mobilization unit to prepare for a possible third deployment to Iraq despite his Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Ms. Richards decided to attend today's Senate Judiciary Hearing.

During the hearing entitled "*Exercising Congress's Constitutional Power to End a War*", Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah said that opposing President Bush's new mission would demoralize U.S. troops and send the message that they are no longer being supported.

Tina Richards stood up in the hearing room and told Senator Hatch that she is the proud mother of a Marine who is now facing a third deployment to Iraq, and that the best way to support her son and all of our troops is to end the funding that will allow the war to continue.

To speak with Tina Richards and other military families who are calling on Congress to de-fund the war in Iraq, contact Ateqah Khaki, Riptide Communications, (917) 612-5657 or Nancy Lessin, Military Families Speak Out, 617-320-5301.

For more information on Military Families Speak Out see www.mfso.org