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**Tierney Statement on the Congressional Budget Office Report,
"Withdrawal of U.S. Forces from Iraq: Estimated Timelines and Estimated
Costs."**

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman John F. Tierney (D-MA), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, welcomed the release of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) Report, "Withdrawal of U.S. Forces from Iraq: Estimated Timelines and Estimated Costs." Chairman Tierney requested that CBO produce this analysis so that Congress would have a clear picture of the implications of various withdrawal timelines on the continued costs of U.S. operations in Iraq.

In this report, CBO analyzed four alternative withdrawal timelines to the Administration's plan to complete withdrawal by the end of August 2010. The analysis suggests that the speed of withdrawal is a decisive factor in the total cost to the U.S. government.

In response to the release of the CBO report, Chairman Tierney issued the following statement:

“The Congressional Budget Office’s analysis of the costs of alternative withdrawal timelines for our presence in Iraq helps to clarify the discussion about the pace of withdrawal. As the analysis makes clear, the timing of our withdrawal would have a significant impact on the costs of this operation. While the safety of our troops is our top priority as we plan and execute a withdrawal from Iraq, the cost to the American taxpayer is an important aspect that must also be carefully considered.

“I plan to continue my Subcommittee’s oversight of the withdrawal from Iraq, taking into account this cost analysis. I will also be paying careful attention to the disposition of military-owned, contractor-operated equipment – so-called “white property” – that is scattered across Iraq. We must ensure that all aspects of the American presence in Iraq are carefully and thoroughly taken into account as we withdraw.”

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Documents and Links

[CBO Report: Withdrawal of U.S. Forces from Iraq: Estimated Timelines and Estimated Costs](#)