

Draft of Sen. McCain's 'Benchmark' Resolution on Iraq

Friday, January 26, 2007

FOX NEWS

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AP

Jan. 25: Sen. John McCain, right, chats with Sen. Carl Levin.

WASHINGTON — Sen. [John McCain](#), R-Ariz., is working on a proposal that would set benchmarks for the Iraqi government to stem violence there and end the war as soon as possible while avoiding military defeat.

"I'm trying to put something together that exercises congressional oversight that would provide some comfort to the American people and that certain benchmarks are being met as far as measuring progress or lack of progress is concerned," McCain a potential 2008 presidential competitor, said of the resolution Thursday.

On Friday, FOX News obtained a version of the proposal, which is printed below.

McCain is joining a growing number of senators who are rallying behind nonbinding resolutions that do not require the president's signature and do not have the force of law, but are an attempt to express differences between Congress and the president over his plans to send another 21,500 troops to [Iraq](#).

A primarily Democratic proposal that says it is "not in the national interest" to increase U.S. military presence in Iraq is co-sponsored by Sens. Joe Biden, D-Del., Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., and Carl Levin, D-Mich. Another, less critical proposal that "disagrees with the plan" offered by the president is co-sponsored by Sens. John Warner, R-Va., Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Ben Nelson, D-Neb.