



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FACT SHEET

May 6, 2009

COMPENSATING OUR TROOPS FOR SERVING UNDER STOP-LOSS

In what has been likened to a back-door draft, nearly 185,000 American servicemen and women have been involuntarily kept in uniform under Department of Defense stop-loss orders since 2001.

Recognizing the hardship placed on troops and their families by being forced to remain on active duty longer than planned, the 2009 Consolidated Appropriations Act (PL 110-329), which Congress approved last September, ordered a special payment of \$500 a month for any servicemember held under stop-loss orders during any portion of any month between October, 2008 and September, 2009.



Expanding on that authority to compensate our troops for their sacrifices, the 2009 Supplemental Appropriations Bill, which was unveiled this week by Appropriations Full Committee Chairman Dave Obey (D-WI) and Defense Subcommittee Chairman John Murtha (D-PA), provides over \$734 million to retroactively provide servicemembers and veterans \$500 for every month they served under stop-loss orders since 2001.

Servicemembers from every branch of the military will receive compensation.

STOP-LOSS SINCE 2001			
Branch of Service	Number of Troops	Average Time in Stop Loss	Average Compensation
US Army (Active, Reserve & Guard):	131,086	8 months	\$4,000
US Navy:	5,565	15 months	\$7,500
US Marine Corps (Active & Reserve):	8,992	9 months	\$4,500
US Air Force:	39,199	10 ½ months	\$5,500