

Reid to Bush: Change course on Iraq

by UPI

WASHINGTON - U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., Monday challenged U.S. President George Bush to "change course" in Iraq.

Flanked at a Washington news conference by two retired generals, Reid called on Bush to make a choice, "Cling to the discredited policies that have led our troops further into this intractable civil war or work with a bipartisan majority of Congress to make us more secure."

Reid's comments came as Bush met with members of military families. The president is scheduled to meet with congressional leaders at the White House this week.

Reid said Congress is committed to fully funding U.S. troops in Iraq but at the same time "tomorrow when we sit down and talk to the president, I am going to be bringing to him the concerns of the American people and a majority of the House and the Senate.

"Congress is committed to fully funding the troops, changing the course in Iraq and responsibly ending the conflict in far away Iraq. We are committed to pressing these goals to the administration until they do change course."

Bush has been urging Congress to send him a supplemental funding bill devoid of timetables for getting U.S. troops out of Iraq and pork barrel spending.

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