

KEEP MASSACHUSETTS' NATIONAL GUARD FROM DEPLOYMENT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

To the elected officials in the state of Massachusetts: We the undersigned, urge you to take the steps necessary to prevent the further deployment of Massachusetts' National Guard to Iraq and Afghanistan.

- The Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq (2002) is based on Iraq having weapons of mass destruction, harboring Al Qaeda members responsible for 9/11, and enforcing UN resolutions against Saddam Hussein's regime, reasons which were never or are no longer valid.
- The Authorization for Use of Military Force of September 2001, which launched the "War on Terror," is overly broad and has allowed the US to occupy Afghanistan and conduct air strikes on other countries while chipping away Americans' human, civil and constitutional rights.

In a 2006 Referendum in many Massachusetts legislative districts, voters by over 60% said that troops should be brought home from Iraq. Legislation to de-federalize the Guard due to the expiration of the Iraq AUMF has been introduced in RI, Maine, NH, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, and other states.

The current federalization of the National Guard allows indefinite deployments with no end date in sight. Massachusetts needs its National Guard to respond to floods, storms, other emergencies for which the Guard was created.

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Sponsors: Veterans For Peace, Iraq Veterans Against The War, Military Families Speak Out, Gold Star Families For Peace, Jobs With Justice, Mass. Peace Action, The Alliance for Jewish, Christian, Muslim Understanding, United for Justice with Peace, Dorchester People for Peace **Return petitions to: Nate Goldschlag 37 Ottawa Rd. Arlington, MA 02476**