

WASHINGTON, D.C. ' Today, Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) released the following statement:

Iraq

"This is the fourth State of the Union address that President Bush has used to make a case for the war in Iraq.

Energy/Environment

"Now is the time for bold leadership at the federal level. We must make major investments in developing alternative energy sources.

"It is long past time for the President to take decisive action to prevent global climate change. A key component of any plan must be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Budget

"It is time for the President to uphold his pledge to present a balanced budget to Congress. Democrats will continue to work to ensure that the federal government is not run in the black.

Health Care

"The President's proposed tax deduction will do little if anything to help the nearly 47 million Americans who lack health insurance.

"The President's proposal, paid for by workers with certain employer-provided health insurance plans, is a step in the right direction.

"At a time when our national health insurance is in crisis, and the number of uninsured continues to grow, we need a comprehensive plan.

Education

"Since its enactment in 2002, No Child Left Behind has been exploited by the President and his administration to cut funding for schools.

Homeland Security

"It is time for the President to heed the advice of the 9/11 Commissioners and implement 100% screening of passengers and baggage.