**WASHINGTON –** House Rules Committee Chairwoman Louise Slaughter today issued the following statement ahead of President Obama's review this week of the planned escalation of the war in Afghanistan. The review comes on the one year anniversary of the new strategy.

"I am hopeful President Obama uses this week's review to acknowledge that this war in Afghanistan is a waste of resources. Rather than bring U.S. forces home, our nation is continuing to pursue an alliance with a government that is utterly corrupt. We are facing our bloodiest year yet and have no real exit strategy, all at an annual cost of $113 billion per year to U.S. taxpayers. While China continues to invest billions of dollars into their economy and infrastructure, we spend billions overseas.  We must not let our mission be rebuilding Afghanistan. Rather we must focus our efforts on rebuilding the American economy and our crumbling roads, bridges and rail lines."