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North State Residents Call Herger

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A call for an end to the war is being sent straight to Congressman Wally Herger's office. Chico residents are hoping to send the congressman a clear signal and sincerely hope that he can "hear them now."

This week, Chico peace activists will join hundreds of others across the state in placing phone calls to California's congressional representatives asking for troop withdrawal.

"I want to let Congressman Herger know that he is our employee. Period.," said activist Susan Eissinger. Peace groups across California are holding a two day "Call In"

urging people to make a call to end the war through calling their local congressman.

"Not only are we sending a message to our elected officials, but we're sending a message to all other people who don't support the war," said Sue Hilderbrand of the Chico Peace and Justice Center.

It seems to be working, as Congressman Herger's Washington DC office was flooded with calls throughout the day. "This is how democracy works," Herger said in a phone interview, "We've had I think at this point about 65 phone calls. I believe most of them have come from the Chico area. They've been polite. Most of them have expressed their views; I felt the calls have gone well."

Herger says it would be a mistake to remove troops now without giving the new Iraq commander General Petraeus a chance to succeed, "I think to somehow not allow him an opportunity to have success in all that we have invested in Iraq at this time and the war on terror would be a serious mistake."

General Petraeus laid out a new plan for the war in Iraq and is scheduled to report to Congress on the progress in September. Herger said he would like to wait until then until any decisions are made.

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