WASHINGTON, DC—Today, after President Barack Obama announced that all US armed forces will leave Iraq by the end of the year, Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, released the following statement:

"A day when American troops return home to their families from a theatre of war, having displayed the highest standard of valor, is a good day for the United States of America. As we close this chapter in our history, we do so mindful of and forever grateful to those who achieved all that was asked of them and sacrificed the most over these years.

The lessons of war are many, the price great. The book on Iraq will teach us much. Indeed, look no further than Libya to explain to America why committing her sons and daughters to war must always be the last resort, the final option.

I commend President Obama for following through on his promise to bring the war in Iraq to an honorable end."