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University of Northern Iowa
Iowa School for the Deaf
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
Lakeside Lab Regents Resource Center
Quad-Cities Graduate Center
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Statement by Regent Rastetter

As a point of personal privilege – let me take this opportunity to briefly comment on an editorial in *The Iowa State Daily* – published December 5th – written by Thomas Walker, a lecturer at Iowa State University.

I want to make it very clear - that the Board of Regents - does not support or share Mr. Walker's opinion – and that is exactly what it is – his opinion.

I - along with many Iowans - was offended and disgusted by the unfortunate and highly inappropriate remarks made against our soldiers in uniform. Not only did Mr. Walker insult our sons and daughters in uniform – he also questioned the kind and humanitarian efforts made by our students to ensure that our soldiers know we care about them - and are exceedingly grateful for their service.

Our students - by the way - were also criticized by Mr. Walker for providing food baskets and other items to the soldiers - for the holidays. Our students should be commended for their efforts.

The irony in Mr. Walker's opinion is that our troops provide and protect the very freedom that enables him to write his editorial opinion.