Madam Speaker, the

first airstrikes against Libya were

launched in March. Now it is June.

Seventy-six days after this mission

began, Congress still hasn’t been given

an opportunity to vote for or against a

declaration of war.

Every Member of this body, regardless

of individual feelings, should demand—

demand—that their constitutional

authority be respected. The engagement

in Libya is lingering without

accountability or checks on Presidential

power, without a vigorous debate

about the consequences of our actions.

What is the endgame? What is

the timetable? What are the metrics or

benchmarks of success?

With the United States already fighting

in two theaters, with the human

and financial costs of Iraq and Afghanistan

mounting every day—$10 billion a

month alone in Afghanistan, our military

is stretched to its breaking point.

We simply cannot take on a third war.

Last week, by an

overwhelming majority of 416–5, this

body voted to say ‘‘no’’ to boots on the

ground in Libya. Today, we must go

one step further. We must support H.

Con. Res. 51 and end the war in Libya

altogether.

I thank the gentleman

for yielding.

Madam Speaker, this is a ‘‘here we go

again’’ moment on the House floor.

Two weeks ago the Kucinich amendment

passed the House overwhelmingly

with a total bipartisan vote because it

was the right thing to do. But, no, the

other side of the aisle can’t stand to let

us have an initiative, the right thing to

do, that they really could agree to.

So here we are today debating the

Boehner resolution to take the air out

of the question of whether the United

States Congress or the White House

has responsibility for the War Powers

Resolution and begging them to know

that it is our responsibility.

Members should not be fooled into

voting for the Boehner resolution because

it delays action. We should vote

for the Kucinich resolution that insists

that the Congress reclaim its authority,

take its responsibility, and do the

right thing regarding Libya.

Vote ‘‘no’’ on the Boehner resolution.