Thank you, Mr. ROONEY.

I appreciate the time, and also

your advancing this resolution.

The President has not made the case

for committing our military to the

conflict in Libya. The President claims

that these military actions do not constitute

hostilities. However, the American

people know otherwise.

The President is engaged in military

action against Libya and the Qadhafi

regime without congressional approval.

In addition to ignoring Congress, many

believe that the President has exceeded

the scope of the U.N. Security Council

resolution imposing an embargo, a nofly

zone, and authorizing civil protection

of the Libyan people.

The President has told us who we’re

against: Qadhafi. But he cannot tell us

who we are for. Secretary Gates has indicated

that we know little about the

opposition or rebels. We do not know

their geopolitical view towards their

neighbors or us. We do not know their

commitment to domestic diversity.

Are we going to have atrocities?

We do not know their ideology, or

their preferred form of government, or

if they have a commitment to nonproliferation

of weapons of mass destruction,

an issue that is incredibly

important in the area of Libya.

The President has used the United

Nations’ approval of civil protection to

wage an all-out war on Qadhafi, without

congressional approval or American

support.

U.S. Admiral Locklear, in charge of

the NATO operations against Libya, recently

stated that ground troops would

be needed to provide stability in Libya

once the Qadhafi regime falls. And yet

the President has not provided us any

information about what a post-Qadhafi

Libya will look like or what will be our

involvement. He is committing us to

an extended military action; and for

Congress to be relevant, the voices of

this body need to be heard.

I support the passage of Mr. ROONEY’s

resolution limiting the use of funds appropriated

in the DOD in support of

U.S. activities in Libya unless otherwise

authorized by law. This passage of

this resolution is an important step to

limit the role of the U.S. military.

I urge passage of H.R. 2278.