I thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to

this amendment.

Very simply, the War Powers Act of

1973 states:

So as we look at the mission—or the

perceived mission that we have in

Libya—it does not even meet this criteria.

I stand here today as someone who

has been sent forth from these shores

in the 22 years that I’ve served in the

United States Army. I stand here as

the son of a man who left these shores

to go defend this great country in

World War II. I stand here as the

younger brother of a man who left

these shores to go defend this country

and fight in Vietnam. And I stand here

today as the uncle of a young man, a

captain, who has already done two

tours of duty in Afghanistan.

Many of my friends have called me—

some call me colonel, some call me

ALLEN—and they say, we need you to

do one simple thing: understand that

the oath that you take is to support

and defend the Constitution, to support

and defend the laws of this country.

They need us to stand up and be the

guardians of the laws of this country.

Just before I came here today, I promoted

Jerry Lee Stern to be a major,

and I read him that oath of office, that

he would greatly take what we must do

now as this body, as legislators of this

great Nation, uphold the laws and not

send our men and women into an undefined

and unspecified mission. They

want the fight; they want to stand up

for us. Let’s do the right thing by

them.