I thank the gentleman

for yielding me this time. Mr. Speaker,

I rise in opposition to the amendment

offered by the gentlewoman from California.

Let us contemplate for a moment

the ramifications of substituting

this amendment for the underlying

Hastert-Gephardt resolution. If next

February Saddam Hussein limits the

ability of U.N. inspectors to check for

weapons of mass destruction, the Lee

amendment says let’s talk. If next

April Saddam Hussein kills several

thousand innocent Iraqi men, women

and children using biological agents,

the Lee amendment says again, let’s

talk. If next June a terrorist attempts

to use a crude nuclear device facilitated

by Iraq against a major U.S. city,

the Lee amendment says, let’s talk.

Mr. Speaker, the lack of enforcement

contained in this amendment is a bit

like a senior citizen trying to stop a

mugging by suggesting they dance the

polka. Supporters of this amendment

say, let’s support the return of weapons

inspectors to Iraq. We have done that.

They say, let’s go to the U.N. for a solution.

We have done that. They say,

let’s engage our allies in this effort. I

say again, we have done that.

Mr. Speaker, what cannot be disputed

today is that peace and freedom

are the ends to which we now seek our

means. President Bush has demonstrated

the courage to lead and to

draw a line in the sand. Now is the

time for Congress to support his leadership.

I am proud to join a broad bipartisan

coalition of Members by standing

up to tyranny and oppression and opposition

to freedom by voting no on this

amendment. By rejecting this spurious

amendment we will ensure that America’s

promise to uphold the rule of law

and to protect the peace-loving people

of the world actually has meaning.