Mr. Speaker, I rise in

support of the Lee amendment because

it recognizes that in this time of crisis

we have the opportunity to pursue a

new vision for the world. This vision

affirms the character of our Nation and

refutes mistaken attempts to use violence

to bring about peace. We have

been down that road before. It is time

to choose a new way. My constituents

understand this. They are overwhelmingly

opposed to the war. In fact, they

wish I had more than one vote today.

A woman from Santa Rosa wrote to a

local paper asking, and I quote, what

would war with Iraq accomplish? U.S.

aggression would only create more

homeless and victimized refugees, more

hatred of the United States by the rest

of the world, and the death of our sons

and daughters in the military. She continues:

Violence only creates more violence.

The United States is the greatest,

the most powerful country in the

world. We have the opportunity to be

leaders of peace.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I support

the Lee resolution and oppose authorizing

force in Iraq.