Mr. Speaker, the resolution

before the House without the

Lee amendment takes this country and

the world on a dangerous and potentially

tragic course.

It is so, first of all, because the resolution

violates our own Constitution

because it devolves war-making authority

from the Congress to the executive

branch. It also puts us in violation

of our commitments to the United Nations.

But fundamentally it puts us on a

dangerous and potentially tragic

course because if we follow the resolution,

if that resolution is prosecuted by

the administration and attacks Iraq

unilaterally, that action will galvanize

the most fundamental, radical elements

of Islam.

It strengthens Wahhabism and it will

bring to their cause tens of thousands

of new recruits who are prepared to

wage war against this country in the

way it was waged on September 11 of

last year. That will be the end result of

the passage and prosecution of the resolution,

absent the Lee amendment.

We must pass this amendment.