Mr. Speaker, let me first

say to my friend, the gentleman from

Illinois (Mr. HYDE), and to all of the

participants in this historic debate how

much I appreciate their leadership and

their ability to debate this issue in a

very courteous and effective manner.

One hundred thirty-eight Members of

this House were present back when we

debated the original Gulf resolution.

Those of us who were here at the time,

including myself, remember that as

one of the historic times in this Chamber.

We return today in many ways to

debate some of the very same issues we

debated so many years ago.

All of us, I think, feel a tremendous

sense of honor to have an opportunity

to debate these issues before us. But ultimately

the substitute offered by my

friend from South Carolina fails to put

us in a position to be as effective as we

were back in 1991. Indeed, it probably

takes us a step backward.

If you look at the U.N. resolutions, 16

resolutions ultimately in that language,

there is the ability of the world

to go after Saddam without another

U.N. resolution, without another resolution

passed by the Congress. Yet the

President came to the leadership of our

body and requested that the Congress

give this kind of authority. That is exactly

what our leadership did.

My hat is off to the Speaker and to

the minority leader, the gentleman

from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), for

coming together and putting together

a bipartisan resolution that should be

supported.

This is a serious matter, that Saddam

Hussein has continued to resist

our efforts. Let us reject this substitute,

pass the underlying resolution,

stand firm, as we did back some 11

years ago, and send a signal that the

United States and our allies will perform

adequately.