Mr. Speaker, the substitute

amendment introduced by Mr. SPRATT improves

on the base resolution, H.J. Res. 114,

because it requires that the United States continue

working with the United Nations to enforce

existing Security Council Resolutions

and to craft stronger resolutions addressing

concerns over weapons of mass destruction in

Iraq. Instead of simply handing the President

a blank check to wage war, this amendment

urges the President to continue working with

the UN Security Council.

I will vote for the Spratt amendment because

I believe it is a better alternative than

the base resolution. I do not believe that the

amendment will pass. If it does, however, I will

vote No on final passage because I do not believe

that the Spratt amendment does enough

to explore all options resorting to war.