Mr. Speaker, the value

of this resolution is cast in a way that

its failure to be enacted by this Congress

would make havoc reign in the

House of Representatives. What do I

mean by that? If we should fail to

adopt this resolution and some new

terror strike visits our land and kills

more of our people, God forbid, then we

will be rushing back to this floor. Remember

now, if this resolution fails, we

will be rushing back to this floor eager

to give new powers to the President to

do something about the new terror attack.

That is what the value of this resolution is.

We are preparing the President, we

are preparing the Congress of the

United States, we are preparing the

people of the United States, and more

vitally we are preparing the Armed

Forces of the United States in a stalwart

resolution which outlines the resolve

of the United States to prepare

for any kind of action that might be required

not just to stabilize the region

in which Iraq lies but also to stabilize

the entire civilized world with respect

to the threat and fear of terror.

And so if we forget everything else

about what the resolution may do, if

we recognize that our national security

is the matter that atmospheres across

every single word of the resolution,

then we have additional rationale for

adopting the resolution. The Armed

Forces always look to the Commander

in Chief for guidance, for leadership, as

they will within this case; but they

also look to see are the people of the

United States, our people, our families,

our neighborhoods at home, are they

backing us? Are they supporting us?

This resolution crosses through all the

lines of communication right to the

barracks of our Armed Forces and

gives indication to them that the people

of the United States, the people

they are sworn to serve and for whom

they would risk their life and limb that

they are behind their actions.

I remember as a member of the

Armed Forces myself in our own company

that the words of the then-Commander

in Chief were very important

to us as to where and what direction we

should go and whether or not the whole

thing was worth it; it is to the Armed

Forces once they know that this resolution

will pass and will guide them, in

the words of the Commander in Chief,

in the interest of national security.