Mr. Speaker, in view of Iraq’s

history of violence, deception and hostility, and

the mounting evidence about its pursuit of

powerful weapons, our objective must be the

disarmament of Iraq and the fundamental reform

of its current political leadership.

The Administration and many members of

this body realize that this task is one that must

be undertaken to protect America and its citizens.

As we have learned, failing to recognize

the seriousness of threats posed by our enemies

can have grave consequences. I support

this resolution because it is critical to our

national security.

It does not obligate us to carry out military

action, but it makes clear to Iraq and all nations

the depth of our commitment to extinguishing

the threat, and ensures that the Administration

has every option available to

achieve our objectives, including the use of

military force.

There is a looming menace to America, and

we ought not delay our efforts to neutralize it.