Mr. Speaker, I rise

in strong support of the resolution. On

September 11 we lost more American

lives than on any single day in history.

Terrorism must be stopped around the

world.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this

resolution to approve the use of American military

force in response of the attacks this week

on our Nation and her people.

Earlier today, I joined with our civilian and

military leadership at the National Cathedral

for the prayer service in mourning for the victims

of Tuesday’s attacks. The Reverend Billy

Graham was absolutely correct to observe that

the assault that was meant to tear us apart

has instead joined us together. Our Nation has

come together to grieve for the dead, the injured

and the missing, and we all weep at the

incomprehensible suffering that has been inflicted

on the American family. This collective

mourning is a necessary and healthy process

to help us recover as a people and face the

difficult days ahead.

But as the Scripture teaches us, ‘‘To every

thing there is a season, and a time to every

purpose under heaven.’’ The time to mourn

will pass. And the time to act will come.

I support this resolution because America

must act. America must act deliberately and

with decisive force to strike down the terrorist

enemy. American must act to protect our

country from this new danger whose evil

knows no bounds. America must act to eliminate

the threat of terrorist attack on our people

wherever that threat may exist.

I support this resolution because this Congress

must come together—Democrats and

Republicans alike—to stand side by side with

our Nation’s Commander in Chief as he leads

our military into the most challenging campaign

we have ever faced. We must come together

on a bipartisan basis to support our

brave young men and women in uniform,

some of whom may not live to see our victory

over this enemy.

I support this resolution, but this Congress

and the American people must understand

that we are embarking on a very dangerous

mission whose duration is unknown and

whose outcome is not foreordained. Our enemies

in this war hide in the shadows and retreat

to the far reaches of the Earth. Our enemies

do not have the courage to face us in

open combat so our military leaders will need

to adapt a new approach to win this war. But

I strongly support this resolution because

America must stand up once and for all and

state to the world: no one with the means and

the will to threaten the American people will

be tolerate—anywhere on the face of the

Earth.