Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong

support of S. 3728, the North Korea Non-Proliferation

Act of 2006. Mr. Speaker, Americans around the nation

celebrated the Fourth of July this year by

watching fireworks, hosting backyard barbecues,

and spending time with their families.

The North Koreans chose to observe America’s

birthday in a far more threatening fashion:

they test launched a series of missiles,

one of which was potentially capable of hitting

American soil with a nuclear payload.

Pyongyang’s destabilizing actions not only

angered Washington, but set off alarm bells in

Seoul, Tokyo, Beijing and Moscow, our partners

in the Six Party Talks. The UN Security

Council quickly adopted a resolution requiring

all Member States to prevent overseas sales

of North Korea missiles, and to stop transfers

of any financial resources to North Korea related

to its missile or WMD programs.

The legislation before the House today implements

this groundbreaking Security Council

Resolution. By adding North Korea to the Iran

and Syria Nonproliferation Act, the United

States will take concrete actions against foreign

firms that engage in missile- and WMDrelated trade with North Korea.

The Executive Branch will now be forced to

review every six months all credible intelligence

regarding commercial transfers to

North Korea of items applicable for the development

of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles.

On the basis of these reviews, the President

must sanction foreign firms that engaged in

such trade, or explain to Congress why he has not done so.

This is Congressional direction at its best.

We must remember that the Iran and Syria

Nonproliferation Act, which this amends,

forced the Executive Branch to take actions

against firms engaging in illicit trade with both

Iran and Syria, actions that the President

would otherwise not have taken. Dozens of

firms have been sanctioned for such Iran- and

Syria-related trade in the years since, focusing

global attention on their activities and on their governments.

The regime of Kim Jong-Il poses as much of

a threat to international security as Iran and

Syria. Common sense requires us to undertake

the same review and sanctions for

Pyongyang’s activities and their commercial

co-conspirators as we do for Iran and Syria.

Mr. Speaker, the North Korean leadership

was hoping to gain the world’s attention with

its July missile launches. Pyongyang succeeded.

But rather than forcing the world to

bring a new tray of goodies to North Korea,

the tests unified the world in opposition to

North Korea’s destabilizing actions, and

brought about a new round of UN-approved sanctions.

Mr. Speaker, with the right package of carrots

and sticks, I remain optimistic that the

U.S. and its Six Party allies can negotiate a

comprehensive and verifiable deal with North

Korea. I hope that by July 4th next year, we

will have such an agreement in hand. Until

then, we must bring our laws in line with the

recent UN Security Council resolution, and act

decisively to undermine North Korea’s missile and WMD programs.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation,

and am gratified that it has passed this House.