Mr. Speaker, events of

the past week have given all of us great

pride in America, great pride in the

people of this Nation and the way in

which they responded to our crisis. But

tonight we also have a moment of

pride, and that is that we are a Nation

of laws; that we are a Nation that follows

the rule of law; and that in this

action, in this resolution, we are respecting

the Constitution of the United

States.

The Constitution says that the Congress

shall have the power to lay and

collect taxes and to provide for the

common defense and general welfare of

the United States, to declare war, to

provide calling forth the militia to

repel invasions. That is what we are

doing. But it also provides that the

President shall be commander in chief

of the forces of this Nation.

I think this resolution says eloquently

that we are a Nation of laws;

that we respond in a measured way, as

provided in the Constitution of the

United States; and that we can take

pride in our response along with the

people in their response to the events

of this week.