Mr.

Speaker, it is obvious that America

will respond, and we will respond in a

unified, factual and deliberate and

committed manner, we will act out of

resolve and out of faith. So, I rise to

support this resolution.

We are today giving the President

the authority to go after the people involved

in these terrorist acts. However

there is a dual responsibility of the

Congress and the President to work together

in times of aggression against

those who would do harm to the United

States. It must be done with the administration,

the President of the

United States, in consultation with

Congress.

I am prepared to support this resolution.

I know there are others in this

country who are fearful of entering

into hostilities and war; but I do believe

that, in consultation under the

War Powers Act of 1973, we are headed

in the right direction, for that act ensures

that the collective judgment of

both the Congress and the President

will apply to the introduction of

United States Armed Forces into hostilities

or into situations where imminent

involvement in hostilities is

clearly indicated by the circumstances

and to the continued use of such forces

and hostilities or in such situations.

We are unified—our country must respond.

We are determined to stand

against those who have acted violently

against the United States in order to

bring about such a loss of life that we

would crumble from FEAR. Never will

that happen, because the principles

that strengthen us of God and country—

like truth will march on.

Mr. Speaker, Members of this Congress are

truly united in their faith in God and country.

That’s why we are unwaivered in our convictions

and resolve to defend America and our

interests against the acts of terror and cowardice

perpetrated against us on September

11, 2001 at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon,

and the crash in Somerset County,

Pennsylvania. These egregious acts against

humanity took the lives of thousands of innocent

civilians that spanned God’s spectrum of

every race, ethnicity and religious denomination.

In 1973, The War Powers Resolution (Public

Law 93–148) was passed over the veto of

President Nixon, in order to provide procedures

for Congress and the President to participate

in decisions to send U.S. Armed

Forces into hostilities.

Such force is constitutional under the Necessary

and Proper Clause which specifically

provided that

The policy behind this power, entrusted to

the President as Commander in Chief, to deploy

U.S. armed forces to defend itself is ‘‘exercised

only pursuant to: (1) A declaration of

war; (2) specific statutory authorization; or (3)

a national emergency created by attack upon

the United States, its territories or possessions,

or its armed forces.’’ Pursuant to this

authority, the President ‘‘in every possible instance’’

shall consult with Congress before deploying

U.S. Armed Forces, and to continue

consultations as long as the armed forces remain

in hostile situations.

By authorizing military action under the War

Powers Act the American people not only support

the President, but they also provide guidance

through their elected leaders that the actions

this great nation takes are neither over

broad nor inadequate. This congress can and

must assure the proper response and level of

retaliation.

Mr. Speaker, the acts of aggression perpetrated

against us certainly qualify under the

War Powers Act, and such consultations between

the President and the Congress are

also clearly upon us.

America has suffered perhaps the greatest

attack and act of aggression in its history.

Thousands of people were killed and injured in

this horrific act, simply because they were

Americans and for their common love of freedom

and democracy. Therefore there is little

doubt that collaboration between Congress

and the Executive is justified in this instance,

as a matter of statutory and constitutional law.

The need for calm in compiling and analyzing

the facts and evidence in this tragedy is

great. Also the need for restraint and cultural

sensitivity towards those in our communities

who live as Americans, but who happen to be

American Muslims, Arab-Americans and

Asian-Americans. As Americans, we must

demonstrate in this, our darkest hour, what

makes us truly great: our love and acceptance

of inclusiveness and cultural diversity. We

must not attack innocent Americans who are

simply different.

But upon our discovery of the culprits of

these heinous acts, our response must be deliberate

and firm. The actions we take today

set us upon a new course in history. Not unlike

what the Founding Fathers faced against

an unfathomable enemy and an inconceivable

challenge. This Congress, like those brave patriots

before us, pledges its sacred honor and

stands at the precipice of this new world

unafraid. We will overcome this terrible period

in the history of our country and we will overcome.