Mr. Speaker, I rise

in strong support of this resolution. I,

too, came back from ground zero in

New York, the site of so much wreckage

and destruction. And for those who

say that this was done by cowardly,

faceless villains, yes, they were cowardly;

but the face that we see is the

face of evil and hatred in our world

today.

We contrasted that evil with the

hope and the determination and the

courage of the firefighters and police

officers and rescue squad personnel

working with the glimmer of hope of

finding additional survivors. For these

individuals who have worked in the

toughest of circumstances for 3 days, it

was incredible to see their faces light

up with words of encouragement from

our President.

There was so much noise and machinery.

There was a firefighter in the back

who yelled, ‘‘Mr. President, we can’t

hear you.’’ And the President responded

with, ‘‘But I can hear you, and

all of America can hear you. And for

those who took down these buildings,

they are going to hear from us.’’

Tonight’s resolution represents our

opportunity to make sure that they do

hear from us. Tonight, we have an opportunity

to stop this evil. We do not

seek revenge; we seek justice. We know

that this is not going to be a short term

project. We need to bear down and

have perseverance for the long haul.

We will root out those who were responsible

for that massacre, and America

will stare down the face of evil and

hatred.

To those who have endured so much

suffering, we will not let you down.