Mr. Speaker, I join

my colleagues in the House and Senate in

support of H.J. Res. 64, to authorize the use

of our Armed Forces against those responsible

for the recent terrorist attacks against the

United States. Passing this resolution and

sanctioning the use of our courageous armed

forces is not something we do lightly, hastily,

or in pursuit of vengeance. Putting the men

and women of our military in harm’s way is a

grave decision that should only be resorted to

when no other course of action is appropriate.

This resolution is a deliberate, well-considered,

and I believe proper response to the deplorable

acts of terror committed against our

country, our people, and indeed, the entire civilized

world.

Passing this resolution demonstrates to our

country and to all the nations of the world our

united resolve to punish those responsible for

these heinous acts, and more importantly, ensures

that perpetrators of terror are not allowed

to continue their campaign of violence

against innocent persons both here and

abroad.

Mr. Speaker, by passing this resolution we

send this critical message to our military: We

stand behind you as you prepare to defend

our country and the ideals of freedom and democracy,

for our citizens and the world community.