Mr. Speaker, I rise today in

support of this resolution authorizing the President

to use military force against the nations,

organizations, or individuals involved in the

September 11 terrorist attacks on citizens of

the United States.

These were reprehensible attacks against

innocent men, women, and children. Anyone

who was involved in planning or carrying out

these attacks must be punished swiftly and

severely.

Moreover, since it is logical to assume that

the parties which planned and provided

logistical support for Tuesday’s terrible attacks

are interested in—and capable of—carrying

out similar attacks in the future, it is imperative

that the United States use whatever means

are necessary to prevent them from doing so.

Finally, it is important to recognize that the

United States has aggressively pursued legal

and diplomatic measures over the last 30

years to curb terrorism—and that it is logical

to conclude from this experience that such

measures will not be effective enough to deal

with the threat that terrorism poses today.

For these reasons, I support this resolution.

I believe that the United States Government

has no choice but to utilize military force to

punish the organizers of the September 11 attacks

and protect the people of this nation

from future terrorist threats.