Mr. Speaker, I rise in support

of this resolution.

I support our President as he seeks to respond

effectively to this unparalleled attack,

which has left our nation shocked and angered.

But no matter the rate we feel today,

our response must reflect our national character,

and be guided by justice and our right

to self-defense, not by vengeance.

I want those responsible for these heinous

crimes to be hunted down and held accountable—

in full compliance with our Constitution

and our laws. They must pay for their murder

of thousands of innocent American citizens

and others.

I want to break the global network of terrorism

so that no other nation, people or group

will know the pain and sorrow America is not

experiencing. To be successful, we will need

a multilateral, coordinated effort of law enforcement,

intelligence and military resources.

We cannot do this alone.

I want the best of America to continue to

shine—so that the world is reassured that the

United States remains a haven for freedom of

religion, freedom of speech, freedom of association.

Our heritage is rooted in diversity and

tolerance, and nothing must abrogate the fundamental

freedoms and rights of our people.

I believe this resolution achieves these

goals. The body of this resolution is appropriately

limited to those entities involved in the

attacks that occurred on September 11th. It

appropriately and explicitly abides by and invokes

the authority of the War Powers Resolution.

It reiterates the existing constitutional

powers of the President to take action to defend

the United States, but provides no new or

additional grant of powers to the President.

The President should still consult regularly

with the Congress about his intentions, actions

and policy as they evolve. The president and

the Congress must work together, in concert,

in order to maintain the unity so necessary to

success. That will require timely consultation,

reporting and updates, and a genuine desire

to maintain the bipartisan support for this undertaking.

We know military action alone will never defeat

terrorism. Last Tuesday, we saw the consequences

of raw hate. It has no logic. It has

no respect for human life or dignity. It holds no

promise for the future. It has no single base or

leader. We can, however, begin to address

some of the underlying problems that can lead

to terror.

We can continue our leadership to help negotiate

just and lasting solutions to the world’s

many conflicts, including in the Middle East.

We can renew our engagement with the

international community to find solutions to the

global challenges of our times: the environment,

weapons proliferation, disease and intolerance.

Our country is unified. We can respond effectively

to the horror of September 11th. We

can break the links between terrorists. We can

contribute to a world that is not only secure

from the threat of terrorism, but also free of

the poverty and oppression that are its breeding

ground. We must exercise the political will

to make this happen.

This resolution helps us begin to achieve

these goals, and I urge its adoption.