Mr. Speaker, I rise in support

of the resolution.

In his Funeral Oration, the great Athenian

leader Pericles said ‘‘heroes have the whole

earth for their tomb; and in lands far from their

own, where the column with its epitaph declares

it, there is enshrined in every breast a

record unwritten with no tablet to preserve it,

except that of the heart.’’

The terrible events of the last few days already

have produced many heroes, from the

firemen and the police officers who gave their

lives to rescue others, to the airline passengers

who appear to have sacrificed themselves

to save their fellow citizens.

And like the heroes of ancient times, our heroes

also have the whole earth for their tomb;

for enshrined in every breast is a record of

their deeds that we will carry forever with us.

We will never forget what happened on

September 11, 2001.

And we must resolve ourselves that these

lives of those who perished in this tragedy will

not have been sacrificed in vain—that out of

their deaths will arise a new commitment to

preserve and defend our American freedom.

We must now go about the grim task of

identifying the monsters responsible for starting

this war and those who may be harboring

them; assuring that they pay a very heavy

price for their actions.

In doing so, we call upon all of those who

love peace and freedom to join us in this crusade.

The community of nations must unite to

assure that these terrorists have nowhere to

run and nowhere to hide.

Together, we must hunt these criminals

down to the ends of the earth and assure they

pay dearly for the crimes they have committed

against humanity.

The resolution before us provides the President

with a specific authorization, consistent

with the War Powers Resolution, to use force

against those responsible for the September

11th terrorist attack.

I do not view this as an open-ended authorization

for this or any future President to wage

war on any one at any time. It is, instead, in

the words of the resolution, an authority to use

force against

All Americans stand behind our President,

his advisers, and the brave men and women

of our Armed Forces who will be asked to

carry out this mission. Our thoughts and our

prayers will be with them in the days and

months ahead.

We know their task will not be easy. But

they should go forward armed with the knowledge

that they have the support of all Americans—

as expressed by the unanimous vote of

their elected representatives.

That is what this resolution signifies, and I

urge its adoption.