Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give

the President the authorization and support he

needs to respond to the acts of terror committed

this week against the American people.

When I was elected to this House, I took an

oath to ‘‘support and defend the Constitution

of the United States against all enemies, foreign

and domestic.’’ Today I reaffirm that vow

by giving the President the authority to prosecute

the battle against our enemies wherever

they may hide.

The armed forces of the United States are

the best in the world. And the men and

women serving in them are ready to act and

know our cause to be just.

There is no justification for these despicable

actions. There is no justification for providing

support or assistance to those who would

wage war against innocent men, women and

children. There is no place to hide from our

coming actions.

In the words of another great President who

led this nation in a time of turmoil, Abraham

Lincoln,