Mr. Speaker, I rise in

strong opposition to this bill, and let

me give you a few reasons why.

In the introduction to the bill, it

says that its purpose is to hold the current

regime in Iran accountable for its

threatening behavior and to support a

transition of its government; and I

would just ask one question: Could it

be possible that others around the

world and those in Iran see us as participating

in ‘‘threatening behavior?’’

We should make an attempt to see

things from other people’s view as well.

I want to give you three quick reasons

why I think we should not be

going at it this way:

First, this is a confrontational manner

of dealing with a problem. A country

that is powerful and self-confident

should never need to resort to confrontation.

If one is confident, one

should be willing to use diplomacy

whether dealing with our friends or our

enemies; I think the lack of confidence

motivates resolutions of this type.

The second reason that I will give

you for opposing this is that this is

clearly seeking regime change in Iran.

We are taking it upon ourselves that

we do not like the current regime. I

don’t like Almadinyad, but do we have

the responsibility and the authority to

orchestrate regime change? We approach

this by doing two things: Sanctions

to penalize, at the same time giving

aid to those groups that we expect

to undermine the government. Do you

know if somebody came into this country

and paid groups to undermine our

government, that is illegal? Yet here

we are casually paying money, millions

of dollars, unlimited sums of money to

undermine that government. This is illegal.

The third point. This bill rejects the

notion of the nonproliferation treaty.

The Iranians have never been proven to

be in violation of the nonproliferation

treaty; and this explicitly says that

they cannot enrich, uranium even for

private and commercial purposes.

For these three reasons we obviously

should reconsider and not use this

confrontational approach. Why not try

diplomacy? Oppose this resolution.