Mr. Speaker, first, let me

thank our ranking member for yielding,

and also for your leadership and

for making sure that wherever genocide

is occurring, you take action to

stop it, Mr. LANTOS. Thank you so

much.

I want to thank also Chairman HYDE

and Chairman SMITH for their leadership

and for making sure that as we

move forward in addressing this atrocity

that we work together in a bipartisan

fashion. It is so important that

the world see Democrats, Republicans,

Independents, all of us coming together

on this issue.

And to Mr. PAYNE, let me just thank

you again for your leadership, for being

oftentimes the lone voice in the wilderness

and for staying there and plugging

along and making sure that this House

and the other body puts this as a priority

because you knew early on what

was taking place when many did not.

So thank you for your leadership.

And let me also thank Mr. ROYCE and

all of those who have been working and

in the forefront of this effort because

all of us understand now that we can

no longer stand by as millions of innocent

people are being displaced and

hundreds of thousands are being murdered.

I visited Chad and Sudan last year

with Chairman ROYCE and the Academy

Award nominee Don Cheadle, and

let me tell you we visited those refugee

camps on the Chadian-Sudanese border.

Children drew pictures of airplanes

flying with bombs dropping. Then they

had the helicopters going underneath

the airplanes. Then the militia, the

Janjaweed on the horses, coming in

burning and raping women and kidnapping

people. These pictures were vivid

that the children painted. It convinced

me that the Khartoum government was

clearly responsible for this slaughter.

We visited also just recently with our

great minority leader, NANCY PELOSI,

El Fasher and the refugee camps

around the AU headquarters. Quite

frankly, it has gotten worse. I want to

thank Congresswoman PELOSI for her

leadership, because we were able once

again, and you heard her earlier, to

visit the refugee camps and talk to

people and see and learn what we must

do in order to stop this slaughter.

This is an important bill. It addresses

not only the immediate needs of the

Darfurian people, but also the longterm

goals of a political settlement.

First of all, it also asks the Secretary

of State to declare the Janjaweed a terrorist

organization, because that is

what it is, and we need to be very clear

on that. The AU is currently doing a

remarkable job, and this legislation

helps us to help the AU in a better way

in terms of providing for more support.

They need more troops.

This legislation also blocks assets

and restricts travel of any individual

the President determines is responsible

for acts of genocide, war crimes or

crimes against humanity in the Darfur

region.

It also supports the International

Criminal Court’s efforts to prosecute

those responsible for acts of genocide

in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that

my provision for capital market sanctions,

which our subcommittee approved

unanimously, did not stay in

the bill as it moved forward, but my

provision to support state-sponsored

divestment campaigns throughout our

Nation is in there.

I want to thank our Chairs for making

sure that that is there, because efforts

to divest from companies that

support the Khartoum regime should

be applauded and the growing divestment

movement must be supported.

The University of California is getting

ready to divest, Harvard University has

divested, Stanford has divested, as well

as the States of Illinois, New Jersey

and Oregon. These provisions with regard

to divestment are very important.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes sure

that we step up to the plate now and

put some teeth into our declaration of

genocide. We cannot have another

Rwanda, Mr. Speaker. One million people

died, and all we could do there was

go there later and apologize. Sometimes

you see some of us wearing ‘‘Not

on Our Watch, Save Darfur,’’ because

we do not intend to have on our watch

another genocide of that magnitude.

200,000 people is too many already. One

person is too many.

So this bill will help us address the

growing humanitarian crisis, and also

the security crisis. In the long run, of

course, we know that we must have a

political solution and a peace accord.

I want to thank all of you, again, for

making sure this remained a bipartisan

effort.