Mr. Speaker, first I

would like to add my voice to congratulate

the leadership of the International

Relations Committee and to

this House for bringing this bill to the

floor. I will be honest, I had some

doubts that this bill would ever get to

the floor, and the fact that it is here I

think is something that deserves recognition.

I think everybody here and everybody

who is listening who cares about

this issue already knows what is going

on in the Sudan.

I just wanted to rise today to express

my opinion that this bill coming to

this floor at this time is representative

of what America can be in the world. It

is representative of what America is. It

is the best of America. I am not so sure

that this bill or anything we can do

here will actually stop the genocide in

Sudan, but we need to do what we can

do, and that is what this bill does.

This bill represents the hopes and

dreams of the world, for all the people

who care, honestly care, about human

rights, basic human rights. I am not

talking about the kinds of things we

talk about here in America which are

the extra-human rights we would all

like to see. These are basic: life and

death; enslavement and freedom; torture

and no torture.

This bill addresses those issues to the

best of our ability, and I think just for

a moment, every American who cares

about this issue should take a second

and congratulate themselves and to

feel good about their country and their

representatives here in the House who

have taken action today that we don’t

need to take. I don’t think any of us

will get a single vote at home because

of this action. But it is the morally

correct thing to do if America wants to

continue to be the beacon of hope for

the entire world.

Mr. Speaker, I repeat what I said before.

I congratulate the leadership of

this House, and thank them for bringing

this bill to the floor.