Mr. Speaker, I address the

House this afternoon to remind our Nation

of what has happened in the last 48

hours: The discussion of the Korean Peninsula

has great impact and meaning

upon our Nation as a whole.

I represent a congressional district

that lies within the flight arc of North

Korea’s ballistic missiles. I am troubled

by the report this morning in the

Washington Post that the Korean

Workers’ Party in North Korea is trying

to manage a dynastic transfer of its

dictatorship from Kim Jong Il to his

son, and I believe the United States

must redouble its efforts to change this

regime and establish a democratic and

united Korea.

But I am also encouraged by the opportunity

which has happened this past

weekend and compliment President

Obama for committing to a free trade

agreement between the United States

and South Korea.

Now is the time for us to further cement

our bonds and our relationships

between the United States and South

Korea and make sure that we change

the dictatorship in North Korea for the

benefit of our Nation and the world as

a whole.