Mr. Speaker, I rise to address

a growing threat to the United

States and global security: Iran’s nuclear

ambitions pose a grave threat,

not only to world stability but also to

our close ally, Israel, the only stable

democracy in the Middle East, and

American interests of peace and prosperity

throughout the region.

Just yesterday the Associated Press

confirmed that Iran has continued its

experiments to enrich uranium in defiance

of the U.N. Security Council.

Led by a tyrannical dictator who denies

the existence of the Holocaust and

vows to wipe Israel off the map, the

President of Iran is out of touch with

reality and poses an immediate security

threat to its neighbors and the

progress of democracy in the Middle

East.

We must stand firm and united in our

resolve to prevent Iran from becoming

a nuclear state. President Ahmadinejad

seems bent on the destruction of Western

civilization. He says Iran will never

give up its right to enrich uranium and

produce nuclear fuel. The consequences

of a nuclear Iran would be catastrophic

and must be addressed.

Mr. Speaker, our commitment to our

allies and for peace in the Middle East

must not be shaken by Iran’s nuclear

weapons ambitions. I urge my colleagues

to work together to stand in

unity against this gathering threat.