Mr.

Speaker, we can do better. As we work

to ensure the tranquility of this great

land and the opportunity for those who

desire and deserve jobs, I frankly,

think, it is likewise a devastating disaster,

a crisis, that the world has not

risen to stop the bloodshed in Syria.

I realize that we are not ready to engage

in war, and I say that we do not

have to. Syrian Americans are just

pleading for the world to intervene, for

Dr. Assad to step down, for the ceasefire

to take place, and for the killing of

women and children to stop.

I join with the administration to ask

for Dr. Assad to be removed. I ask the

Arab League, I ask the surrounding

neighbors to stand up against this increasing

violence. To the Syrian Americans

that I have stood with in Houston,

I stand with you until Dr. Assad is

removed and the violence is stopped.

The United Nations has moved towards

a resolution of peace, and Russia

and China must stop standing in the

way and watching bloodshed pour. Remember,

children are dying.

Dr. Assad in Syria must leave and

peace must come.