Madam

Speaker, it is evident by my colleague’s

remarks that Iran and the dilemma

and complexity of its situation

has grabbed hold of the hearts and

minds of Americans and freedom-loving

people around the world.

What struck me was the expression

and the tragic incident that caused

Neda, who is now known around the

world as a symbol of the Iranian movement,

to claim democracy in a free

election. A 16-year-old who was shot

through the heart, who lay bleeding in

the street as her father feverishly tried

to save her life.

No, Americans are not trying to tell

the Iranian people whom they should

vote for or whether the election was, in

fact, a true election, a fair election.

But we as freedom-loving people, who

love democracy, who believe in our own

country that we should have fair elections,

we are standing with them as

they petition their government to

stand for the right side of the issue,

which is to ask for a new election or a

recount.

We also ask that lives are preserved

and violence ends. We ask that the opposition

be allowed to be heard. And we

certainly ask for the ending of the

interception of cell phones and the

Internet where freedom-loving people

would like to be able to speak to each

other.

No, we are not advocating violence.

We’re not advocating intrusion. We are

only advocating freedom for Iran.