Madam Speaker, I

thank the gentleman from Indiana.

I too rise today in strong support of

the Iran Freedom Support Act, and I

would like to also commend the leadership

of Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN for her

leadership on this bill and all those

that she continues to fight for in the

defense of freedom around the world.

The world is clearly at a critical

juncture. We are in the midst of waging

a global war on terrorism to defend the

free world from terrorists who seek not

only to kill us, but to destroy our way

of life. Make no mistake about it; the

very essence of the rights and freedoms

for which our forefathers fought are at

stake.

This bill that stands before us today

is a key component of our war on terror.

Iran is one of the largest state

sponsors of terror in the world. They

have funneled money and arms to terrorist

cells throughout the Middle

East, and have American blood on their

hands. Iran, without a doubt, is one of

the most dangerous threats to our national

security and to world stability.

Now Iran stands on the verge of obtaining

a nuclear weapon, yet another

tool in its arsenal of terror and violence.

Iran’s President Ahmadinejad is

a maniacal dictator who thrives on his

hatred for the United States and its desire

to destroy our freedom. The world

cannot and will not tolerate a nuclear

Iran.

It is not only the United States

which is at risk, but our allies as well.

President Ahmadinejad has made clear

his intentions to wipe off the map

Israel, our longest-standing democratic

ally in the Middle East.

This week, Madam Speaker, we commemorate

Yom Hashoah, Holocaust

Memorial Day. We remember with

great reverence and respect the victims

of another maniacal dictator who

threatened to wipe an entire people off

the map and who wanted to impose his

theory of a perfect society on the rest

of the world.

We must learn from our mistakes of

the past to take these threats seriously

and act hastily.

The Iran Freedom Support Act is an

important step in neutralizing the

threat Iran poses to the world. I must

stress, however, that passage of this

bill should be the first step, not the

last. God forbid we stand on this floor

60 years from now memorializing the

victims of yet another Holocaust.

Let us fulfill our pledge to never forget.

Let us learn from the lessons of

our history and continue to strengthen

our tools to fight this global war on

terror and preserve our freedoms.