Madam Speaker, I

appreciate my colleague for yielding,

and I want to congratulate Chairman

HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS of

the International Relations Committee,

as well as Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN

for her work on this issue, and I rise

strongly today to support H.R. 282, the

Iran Freedom Support Act. The Iran

Freedom Support Act sends, I think, a

strong message: the United States expects

Iran to be a responsible member

of the international community.

Iran has repeatedly asserted its

rights to nuclear power, but its government

has remained silent on their

international obligations. Iran must be

transparent in meeting its international

nuclear obligations. In particular,

Iran’s refusal to answer the

International Atomic Energy Agency’s

questions about critical elements of its

nuclear power program is of deep concern

to me.

In addition, Iran’s sponsorship of terrorism

raises troubling questions about

its true intentions and its long-term

goals. It is impossible to have faith in

a regime which spreads fear, violence,

and disruption through its support of

terrorist organizations and networks.

I support President Bush’s efforts to

work with the United Nations Security

Council and the International Atomic

Energy Agency to compel the Iranian

regime to be a responsible member of

the international community.