I thank the gentleman

from New York and the gentleman

from Indiana, and I am happy to be an

original cosponsor of this bill. I want

to compliment Congresswoman ROSLEHTINEN

and Congressman LANTOS for

this bill. I rise in strong support of this

resolution, and I condemn the actions

and statements of the Iranian Government.

I believe this is one of the greatest

crises since the end of the Cold War,

and we have to be up to the challenge.

Under the guise of saying it needs to

meet its own energy needs, Iran has,

for years, been engaged in secret efforts

to develop nuclear technology

that has weapons capability.

Let us be very clear. Iran is lying

when she says she wants to use this for

peaceful purposes. Iran is a major oil

exporter and doesn’t need nuclear

power for peaceful purposes. She is

doing this for one reason and one reason

only: to be hostile; defying and

misleading the international community.

Iran’s President Ahmadinejad has

gone to extremes to stir up anti-American

and anti-Israel sentiment in Iran

and throughout the Arab world. Not

only, as was stated before, has he publicly

declared his hope for ‘‘a world

without America,’’ he has also stated

his desire ‘‘to wipe Israel off the map.’’

These remarks demonstrate a gross

disregard for the rule of law, human

life, and the core principles of the

United Nations. I wholeheartedly support

the United Nations Security Council’s

looking into taking swift and

strong action to counter Iran’s growing

threat, and I urge prompt adoption of

H.R. 282.

This is a commonsense resolution.

This has nothing to do with Iraq, to my

colleagues who were talking about

Iraq. There is no analogy here. This is

another threat, and we have to stand

up to the threat. If the world had stood

up to Hitler in the 1930s, maybe the

Holocaust wouldn’t have happened.

Maybe World War II wouldn’t have happened.

Every time there is a chance,

society and the world has to stand up

to prevent worse things from happening

in the future. I don’t want to be

around if Iran detonates a nuclear

weapon and say I stood here in Washington

and was afraid to act.

As Ms. BERKLEY pointed out, this resolution

doesn’t say anything about any

kind of military action. We hope this

can be resolved diplomatically, but,

frankly, I believe that all options

should be on the table. The military

should be an absolute, absolute, ultimate

last resort, but we have to tell

these thugs in Iran that we are not

going to stand idly by and allow them

to be destructive, allow them to make

threats, allow them to kill people, or

allow them to have another Holocaust.