Mr. Speaker, I yield myself

as much time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 65,

as amended. I would like to thank our

chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee,

Mr. ROYCE, for his leadership in

addressing the threat posed by North

Korea. I’m proud to be the lead Democratic

cosponsor of this resolution. I

believe it’s very important for the

House to speak with a strong bipartisan

voice in condemning North Korea’s

recent nuclear test.

This test was an unnecessary provocation

that raises tensions in northeast

Asia and poses a threat to the national

security of the United States and our

allies in the region. The test also violates

numerous U.N. Security Council

resolutions, and I urge the Security

Council to promptly pass a new resolution

with additional sanctions to punish

the North Korean regime.

In particular, I call on China and

Russia to work constructively with

other members of the Security Council

to show the world that the world is

united in opposing North Korea’s unacceptable

behavior. I recently traveled

to Asia with Chairman ROYCE, and this

is one of the key issues we discussed

with senior Chinese leaders. China

must do more. They’re the ones that

can rein in North Korea. They must do

so, and they must do so immediately.

The North Korean regime must understand

that the development of ballistic

missiles and nuclear weapons will

never make it a strong and prosperous

nation. Instead of wasting millions of

dollars on these weapons of mass destruction,

it should focus on feeding its

own impoverished people.

I have visited North Korea, the capital

of North Korea, Pyongyang, on two

occasions, and I can tell you that the

North Korean regime would do better

to help its own people, give them the

things that they deserve, rather than

spend its time and money on exploding

nuclear devices in violation of what the

international community believes. The

new young dictator of North Korea,

Kim Jong Un, must understand that

the United States and our allies will

not stand idly by and allow them to

continuously violate what the international

community thinks is acceptable.

I agree with Chairman ROYCE that for

too long they have played this game.

They have talked and talked and gone

on and gone on and nothing has really

been done, and they continue to violate

international law. Unfortunately, Iran

is playing the same game, and we cannot

allow that to happen either—Iran

getting a nuclear weapon.

So given the threat posed by North

Korea, the United States must remain

vigilant and further strengthen cooperation

with our allies of South

Korea and Japan. As the chairman

said, we were in South Korea just a few

days ago and we saw the evidence of

provocation, of North Korea torpedoing

a ship from South Korea, killing 50-

some-odd members of the military of

South Korea in an unprovoked attack.

This is an outlaw regime, and it really

must be handled properly.

I urge my colleagues to support this

resolution, and I reserve the balance of

my time.