I’d like to add my

voice to thanking the leadership,

Chairman ROYCE, Ranking Member

ENGEL, and former full chair, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN,

for their leadership on this

very important issue.

I rise in strong support of this resolution

condemning the actions of a pariah

state and its dictatorial leader for

brazenly violating international sanctions,

multiple United Nations Security

Council resolutions, and repeatedly

threatening the peace and stability

of the Korean Peninsula.

North Korea’s test of a nuclear bomb

on February 12, following its test of a

ballistic missile in December, was a

clear indication that it is continuing

its quest for the ability to threaten the

United States, South Korea, and other

neighbors in the region.

It has become evident that the current

international sanctions are not

working, but rather, emboldening

Pyongyang to expand its arsenal and

proliferate nuclear and ballistic technologies

to dangerous allies in the Middle

East.

This resolution is only the first step

in an effort to cripple the North Korean

regime’s ability to carry on with

its illicit nuclear activities. I look forward

to working with Chairman ROYCE

and my colleagues on additional legislation

that puts in place much tougher

and more effective sanctions to sever

Kim Jong Un’s ability to threaten the

international community.

Mr. Speaker, the long-suffering people

of North Korea are starving and

being deprived of the most basic of

human rights while their latest dictator

squanders the nation’s precious

resources and threatens his neighbors

and the surrounding region. The civilized

world must take notice and take

action.

I thank the chairman for his leadership

on this issue, and I urge support of

the resolution.