We’ve been in Afghanistan

for 10 years at a cost of over

a half trillion dollars and in Iraq for 8

years at a long-term cost of at least $3

trillion. Those who told us the war in

Libya would last days now want to extend

it for another year at a total cost

of billions.

It is surreal that we could even be

considering authorizing this war at a

time when the government is collapsing

in debt. Those who told us the

war in Libya was to save civilian lives

quickly switched to regime change,

with innocent civilians dying from

NATO’s bombs.

Prior to NATO’s assuming responsibility,

we launched hundreds of cruise

missiles and dropped tons of bombs on

Libya. Since NATO took over, the U.S.

has struck from the air at least 90

times, including drone attacks. But

these are not ‘‘hostilities,’’ claims the

White House; so what business is it of

Congress?

We must put an end not only to the

war in Libya, but we must put an end

to the thinking that the Constitution

is a doormat and that our constituents

must simply bear the consequences of

the misguided policies of this administration

without this Congress having

any say whatsoever.

Defeat the authorization for the war.

Vote for the Rooney bill, which limits

the war. And when we return, let’s vote

for a total cutoff of funds for this

wrongheaded adventure.