Madam Speaker, for the

fifth day in a row, hundreds of thousands

of Iranian citizens have taken to

the streets on behalf of free elections

and democracy. Sadly, the response by

the Iranian government has been more

oppression and violence against its own

people, deaths confirmed, hundreds of

citizens beaten, and foreign journalists

intimidated and banned from the

streets. We are witnessing a

Tiananmen in Tehran.

While I respect the fact the President

of the United States has denounced the

violence, that he has said the

protestors had a right to be ‘‘heard and

respected,’’ this administration has not

yet expressed the unqualified support

of the American people for those who

are courageously taking to the streets

on behalf of self-government and free

elections in Iran.

Yesterday, I introduced House Resolution

549, a resolution that would give

voice to countless Americans who want

our Nation to support the dissidents in

Iran who are struggling for their own

freedom.

The American cause is freedom. In

this cause, America must never be silent.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor

this important resolution and bring it

to the floor this week.