Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the tragic events

of September 11, 2001. As we honor the nearly 3,000 lives lost that

day, my thoughts remain with the loved ones of those who did not return

to their families.

We also remember with pride the national unity that our country

showed that horrible day and in the days that followed. In tragedy, we

laid our differences aside and found common purpose. The legacy of 9/11

is our ability to say with certainty that no enemy or threat can change

the values of our country and that which it stands for. I remain awed

by the bravery and valor shown each day by our first responders and

their brothers and sisters in uniform and by ordinary Americans.

In Tucson, we have a special connection to 9/11. Christina Taylor

Green was a 9/11 baby. Today would have been her 11th birthday. She

died in the tragic shooting on January 8, 2011, when she came to speak

with her Congresswoman.

Just as on 9/11, we saw the spirit of the American people who came

together in prayer, compassion, and unity on January 8, 2011, and in

the days and weeks that followed. This is who we are as a people and

who we always will be.

God bless all of us and this great country in which we are privileged

to live.