Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California

(Ms. Harman). I appreciate it.

And I want to say at the outset I rise to support the resolution.

When I look over there, the gentleman from California (Mr. Cunningham),

the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Sam Johnson), and a whole bunch of

others, they are my heroes. But we have some on this side of the aisle

too. I think of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Murtha), I think

of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Reyes), the gentleman from Florida

(Mr. Boyd), the gentleman from California (Mr. Thompson), a lot of us

as well as a lot of my colleagues.

This is not a partisan thing. We support the troops. No question

about it. I was a little appalled this morning as I heard my dear

friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Murtha), and his comments.

But I still support the troops.

Our troops in Iraq are to be commended for their courage and their

valor. I do say the same about the dedicated men and women of the

intelligence community. I visited with them in Iraq. It is truly

inspiring to see what they have accomplished. And the Iraqi people are

to be commended for their courage in the face of Saddam's cruelty.

But I agree with the remarks of my colleague, the gentlewoman from

California (Ms. Harman), the proposed resolution ought to do more. It

is time the President set about fixing the problems in intelligence

that are already known to exist. This will do much more to secure the

peace in Iraq than just commending the troops and the Iraqi people

which, of course, is very important.

For example, the DCI has acknowledged that we did not have enough

human intelligence. In addition, the sources we did have too often gave

us bad information. There are also some indications that we may have

dismissed potential sources of information because they were not

telling us or we did not believe or did not want to believe that Iraq

had weapons of mass destruction.

Closed societies of Iraq are among the most difficult of intelligence

targets. No question about it. Terrorist groups are equally difficult

to penetrate. However, there are steps we can take to improve our

ability to recruit sources of information on these hard targets.

The intelligence community is developing new ways of deploying human

intelligence collectors. In urging the President to take steps now to

fix intelligence, we can encourage these efforts which will yield

benefits in Iraq today. The proposed resolution ought to do this. Why

not? We can. We should.

I do support the resolution.