Madam Speaker, one year after the beginning of Operation

Iraqi Freedom, our mission in Iraq has been an unqualified success.

Saddam Hussein's regime is no more. Its senior officials are in prison,

and the people of Iraq have been liberated. An interim constitution,

one of the most progressive in the Middle East, has been signed. Free

elections and self-determination are on their way. Americans and Iraqis

and free people the world over are reaping the benefits of regime

change in Baghdad. There is no in this calculation, Madam

Speaker.

The world is at war and whether we want to be a part of it or not, we

are a target. Our freedom is a target. Our prosperity is a target. We

are hated by our enemies, not for any strategic or diplomatic reason

but for issues of culture, religious extremism and ideology. No amount

of appeasement or international hand-holding will end this threat. The

only thing that will is making relentless war on our enemies, on every

front and with every weapon available to us, until the last terrorist

on earth is either in a cell or in a cemetery.

Our intervention and victory in Iraq have been absolute goods for

mankind and for mankind's war against terror. Those who supported our

action were right, and those who opposed us were wrong.

This week, Madam Speaker, the House will take up a resolution

commemorating the first anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom,

acknowledging its success and commending the Iraqi people on their

hopeful march to freedom. This resolution, this opportunity to restate

the United States' commitment to winning the war on terror, is all the

more important for its timing, coming only days after the largest

terrorist attack in Spanish history.

Madam Speaker, last week's violence reminded us all that the world is

still at war, whether it feels like it every day or not, and the only

way to win the war on terror is to remain vigilant in its execution.

This week, we will have an opportunity to reaffirm our support for our

troops, for our victories and for the liberated people of Afghanistan

and Iraq.

I encourage everyone to read the resolution, put politics aside, and

work towards its unanimous approval.