operate without a functioning airline system. We understand that. But we want to know whether or not the administration is in support of this or not. Secondly, I want a clear response that if the language that the gentleman from Florida is referring to is not retained in conference, that that conference will not be brought back to this House floor, period. We need answers to those two questions.

And then there is a very troubling provision which has yet to be explained in this bill. On page 5, line 2, it refers to suspension, delay or modification of any quarterly payment or other Federal financial obligations to the United States by the air carriers. Does that mean that they are delaying payroll taxes? What taxes to the U.S. government are they delaying? We are supposed to be defending taxpayers' money. We have to have answers about what this means for taxpayers' money. I have not decided what I am going to do yet. But I would like some answers before we have to decide.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, withdrawing my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) will be elucidating on the subject of the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, withdrawing the right to object, I think it was only a week ago, well, maybe not a week ago at this time, at 12:20 in the morning, but about a week ago that individuals in this House of both parties express concern about our budget, our financial situation, situation the government, our budget, to our financial situation, situation whether or not it would be necessary with the budgetary pressures that we have to reach into those monies that are payroll taxes, that businesses and individuals have paid in for Social Security, and use that for other purposes. In the tragic week that has transpired since that time, the world has been turned upside down for families in New York, in Washington, across the country. Certainly our situation with regard to the budget has been turned upside down as well. But it is not one that has made our situation better. It has made the pressures on our budget worse.

Last night this House, with no explanation as to the specific purposes for which the monies would be spent, voted to approve the expenditure of $40 billion out of what are basically Social Security monies. That number went up from $30 billion in the morning to $40 billion at night.

Perhaps there were those who were watching the success of the growth of those funds, because now, tonight, before the dust has settled, before perhaps all the fires are extinguished, there are those who are counting up here at the Capitol door, at the public treasury, asking that they receive some public subsidy, right out of the Social Security fund. Perhaps that subsidy is well justified. I may vote for it myself because I think it is so. But if it is so compelling, it will be as compelling in the bright light of day as it is with insults and threats at midnight.

I feel that the taxpayers of this country are owed a better explanation than to hear about a bill at 4, with promises and and's, if's, or's and but's, that is going to take perhaps not just $2.5 billion, but perhaps $15 billion out of that Social Security money, that they are entitled to know a little more about it.

If it is so desperate and if it is so essential that be accomplished before Monday, then I suggest we stay and work on it. I am prepared to do that. I suggest that we stay and have a hearing. If the gentleman has so much wisdom and insight on this, I suggest he convey it to us in the course of an ordinary hearing.

I have been asked tonight what it is that I want. I do not want anything special. I simply want the same consideration I would want for any expenditure of $15 billion out of the Social Security monies, and that is a fair chance to ask some questions about it, to see it deliberated, to get a little investigation to question whether there is business interruption insurance, to question whether or not there are other resources; to question those who say if we do not get all this approved by Monday, people would be laid off. What guarantee is there that they will still be hired on Monday if it is approved? To ask if it is so very, very important that we act here after the midnight hour, why the President of the United States has not found it sufficiently important to call for it in some kind of proclamation.

So, for all of those reasons, I object to doing this tonight. I certainly would have no objection to the kind of resolution the gentleman from Pennsylvania has talked about, or some other way of expressing our concern about this; but I object to this bill coming up, if it has even been filed. I suppose in the last few minutes it has. I object to coming up in this fashion, in this manner. It sends a signal to others who will stand at the door of the Treasury and ask for their subsidy.

Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, did the gentleman from Texas misspeak? Did he in fact ask to continue to reserve?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection was heard from the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, withdrawing my reservation of objection.
distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMNEY).

Mr. ARMNEY. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by thanking the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for drafting this legislation and thank the gentleman even more for calling it to my attention and inviting me to be part of this discussion.

Mr. Speaker, this is a serious matter. This goes to the heart of what we have been talking about for the last few days.

This Nation was attacked by criminal terrorists, barbarians. For what reasons, we do not know. Of course, we have asked ourselves why, and we have been offered a lot of reasons.

We are hurt, we are angry, we are disappointed. We intend to set this thing right. But we do not set it right, Mr. Speaker, if we paint the whole world with one brush.

These were people with hatred in their hearts. They are not all the people of a race, a religion or a creed. Indeed, most of the people in this country that are Arab-Americans, most of the people in this world who are Arabs, most of the American Muslims, most of the people in the world who are Muslims, most of the people in the world who are South Asians, are as shocked and horrified as we are.

These were criminals. These were thugs. I do not know their agenda, but it is wrong for us to spread the blame and the guilt for that kind of behavior to any person other than those who are responsible.

As a good decent Nation, we will hold those who are accountable, who are responsible for transgressing against the rules of human dignity accountable; and that same good decent Nation that holds those who are guilty accountable will also hold all those who share responsibility, and those who encourage, and those who are present at the scene, accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the leader for his eloquent statement.

Under my reservation, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), who has played a very important role in making this happen.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Michigan for his leadership on this issue.

Just in the last few days, in my district in Northern Virginia, anti-Arabian graffiti was written at a local high school. We have had an Islamic book store that has been vandalized.

The vast majority of American Muslims and Arabs are as appalled at these acts of terrorism as the rest of us. Many of these Muslim and Arab Americans and Sikhs came to escape this type of terrorism in their own countries, and it has come here now. But they have come here, as most of our forebears, for the freedom and the opportunity that this country offers.

We cannot, we cannot, we cannot, Mr. Speaker, we cannot afford to let the terrorists divide our country between Muslim and Arab and Jews and Christians. We do not want to repeat the mistakes of World War II where we singled out Japanese Americans for discrimination. We need to show that Americans stand together: Christians, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs and others in support of our President and against any type of discrimination. Against any group, discrimination cannot and should not be tolerated.

This resolution affirms our role as leaders in recognizing that no group should be singled out for discrimination simply because they share a common hereditary or religious background similar to the terrorists.

I ask that we pass this resolution. Again, I commend the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for his leadership.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding under his reservation.

I want to say that I strongly support this resolution. I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) for the leadership that they have shown on this very important issue.

Again, there are few things that outrage me more than the kind of discrimination that was just outlined by the gentleman from Virginia that has taken place. The graffiti that has come up in the wake of Tuesday’s tragedy is just horrible, and we need to do everything that we can to ensure that that does not happen. I believe that this resolution should send a very strong signal about the leadership that the United States is going to take in ensuring that this kind of discrimination does not take place.

Just a little more than 12 hours ago, Mr. Speaker, Dr. Muzammil Siddiqi, the leader of the North American Islamic Society, gave the opening prayer at the very moving service that most of the Members of this body attended.

I believe that his presence at that service that we attended was a very strong signal from President Bush and other leaders in this country that we are not going to tolerate that kind of discrimination which has been described already here and which, frankly, is of concern to me and to others.

Attempts to bring about generalization is something that is very tempting for a lot of people, and I will simply say that we need to caution the American people against that. That is why I chose to stay here when the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) first mentioned to me the prospect of this resolution. I wanted to voice my very strong support for it.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. Before I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. RAHALL), my good friend who is of Lebanese descent, I want to just say a few words, if the gentleman would permit me.

Like all Americans, Arab Americans, Muslims in America, Sikhs, they have strongly condemned these heinous and outrageous acts that have been perpetrated against America and its people. And like their fellow citizens of all faiths, they have joined in efforts to give blood; they have been parts of vigils around this country; they have conducted their own religious services. They have shown on this very important day that were involved in trying to rescue people in New York City. They are part of what we all are grieving and suffering from so painfully in these last 3 days, 4 days.

So I would say tonight that in the wake of this attack, it is really most unfortunate and sad and outrageous that the Arab American community...
and the Muslim American community and the South Asian community, the Sikhs particularly, have been targeted with this bigotry that the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) alluded to and violence.

Near Chicago, bigots tossed a fire bomb at an Arab American community center. In old town Alexandria, vandals attacked an Islamic bookstore, as the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) said, and two Virginia mosques received threatening phone calls. In New York, a man tried to run over a Pakistani woman in the parking lot of a shopping mall, accusing her of destroying his business.

Many of the children in the schools are fearful because of their religion or because of where their ancestors or families may have come from. Women Muslim women are fearful about wearing their head coverings in public, as well as Sikhs who have expressed that same concern to me today. It is a serious problem.

I think not only did Muzammil Siddiqi speak to me about this, but Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, the Archbishop of Washington, spoke as well.

He reminded us. He said this. He reminded all Americans in prayer that: “We must seek the guilty and not strike out against the innocent, or we become like them who are without moral guidance or direction.” So I hope and pray in the days ahead that people will remember that.

When I was at the White House on Wednesday, the day after the tragedies, I had occasion to speak with the President and the Cabinet and the other leaders of the Congress. We talked about this issue. We raised this issue. There was agreement throughout the room that we would keep this issue in mind and in the forefront of our discussions as we proceeded in the weeks and months ahead.

So I want to commend the President, because he soon thereafter condemned this bigotry on national television, and so did the Attorney General, John Ashcroft, and so did Mayor Giuliani, with quite a bit of force in New York City.

Today, we in the Congress lend our voices to this chorus for American tolerance. Mr. Speaker, and diversity and for the rights of every American of every heritage and faith to live and worship with safety and confidence and pride.

It is very heartening to see Members on both sides of the aisle stand up in support of what this resolution says.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), who has always been, for the 25 years he has been in the House, a leader on these issues.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Michigan for yielding; and I want to commend him for bringing this to the floor this evening, as well as the gentleman from Pennsylvania, and to thank the gentleman who is not my friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR), for his leadership on other relevant issues in this arena as well, and most particularly, his sponsorship and fight for the secret evidence legislation.

Mr. Speaker, we are all justifiably angered by the events of 9/11 last week. We, often, in our rage, say and do things that, upon reflection, we perhaps regret. But the instances that have been referred to by previous speakers, including the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR), go beyond those just temporary slips of judgment or temporary slips of the tongue. They go to what is basic about our American society, and it is really an attack upon what is basic about our military society.

Let us not forget that Arab Americans, Muslim Americans, South Asian Americans, are Americans first. They chose to come to this country in order to seek a better way of life for themselves and their families. They pay taxes. They vote. They donate to various charitable causes within their communities. They have become well respected, and they have contributed in so many walks of life, whether it be the medical profession, the legal profession, whether it be teachers, lawyers, whether it be teachers, whether it be laborers in our factories, they have contributed so much to our American way of life.

Let us not forget as well that there were members of these communities that were in those Twin Towers that lost their lives, as well. Let us not forget that fact.

So I guess the best way to describe these attacks against Arab Americans, Muslim Americans, South Asians, is, as my hometown newspaper described it today, to paraphrase my hometown paper in Beckley, West Virginia, these are yahoos that are making these attacks, yahoos who happen to pose as great a threat to our American society, to our freedoms, and to our way of life as those perpetrators of those heinous crimes against our country last Tuesday.

They are ignorant, those who espouse these attacks, are not as prominent today as they were in past occasions, like the Gulf War or the Oklahoma City bombing. That kind of recognition is coming to the communities represented by Arab Americans, Muslim Americans, South Asians, because of their contributions to our American way of life.

As the gentleman from Michigan has mentioned, they have all, to the group, condemned, highly condemned, the acts of last Tuesday. They have organized themselves into blood donation drives, they are contributing their money, they are praying as hard as each of us for the victims of these crimes to find themselves on the wrong side of our cities.

So I commend the gentleman from Michigan and the gentleman from Pennsylvania for bringing this resolution to the floor and urge its unanimous passage.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague. Continuing to reserve, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), who has not only spoken out against this kind of bigotry, but has actually organized in her own district.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding to me, and the efforts and leadership of my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan, to end this kind of bigotry and discrimination.

In the face of this unspeakable assault on the American people, we have so many reasons to be proud this week. We look at the firefighters, the police, the other emergency workers who went into harm’s way, and so we are celebrating as an American family an opportunity to embrace each other, even as we grieve, and congratulate those who have worked so hard to end the suffering.

At the same time there has been this one horror, and that is, that there are those who have used this occasion to commit acts of bigotry and even violence against people who want to join with us as Americans, as residents of this country, as people offended by this because they are finding themselves being the victim. It is hard for me to even imagine people who are feeling so hurt by what happened and then themselves go out in the street and find themselves to be harassed as somehow to be the cause for the suffering when they are completely innocent.

I have a district that is so diverse, all kinds of people, every race and religion and ethnic origin; and we are going to take a walk down Divine Avenue this Sunday, a street in my district, that has shops, a booming commercial district of Muslims and Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, Orthodox Jews, Jewish people. And we are going to take a walk from one end of the street to the other, just to take a walk together, hand in hand, arm in arm to express our solidarity.

That is the kind of thing that we need to be doing in this hour of need in this country to help heal each other and our nation, and that is the essence of this resolution that I hope everyone will support.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I think it is a beautiful idea and I hope it is emulated around the country. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).
Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his leadership on this issue. He has been a continuing advocate for these issues, and as well, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims for bringing this particular resolution to the floor of the House. And I would certainly want to offer to the American, an Arab American, South Asian Americans and American Muslims, the fact that we are better than this.

Clearly, it is important during this time of great emotion, constantly seeing our brethren searching for those who may still live or those who do not live. It is stressful as we watch the continuous rescue efforts in New York, some still continuing at the Pentagon, the rhetorical and moralistic acts of those who downed the plane in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, you want to lash out. You want to find some easing of your pain. But listening to a woman who was full of pain say we do not want them living in the United States is a way that America shows its pain. America understands what freedom, what democracy, and what our values are all about.

So I think this is particularly important today for the Congress of the United States to use its national platform to be louder than those disjointed chords and to articulate that America must speak loudly to our local jurisdictions, our governors, our mayors, our county commissioners, our local law enforcement, our parishes, churches, synagogues and mosques, our community organizations, all of them, our neighbors. We must stand in one voice that we will not tolerate this kind of singling out of Americans, Arab Americans, South Asian Americans, and American Muslims.

In particular, I think one of the greater tragedies is what is happening to our children, children who have to go to and from school, children who have to mingle on school playgrounds, and it is in school classrooms and on school sports teams. What are we doing to them? Are we setting up a situation where those who believe this is the right thing to do because they heard adults say this? Are they then intimidating others who happen to be Arab American, South Asian Americans and American Muslims? We are dividing our children.

The one thing about a terrorist act is it is to instill an enormous amount of fear in society and what happens out of fear? You begin to turn on each other. Let us show the perpetrators of these terroristic acts that we do stand against terrorism, and we are fearless. In fact, we are so fearless that we are going to unify with each other and we are going to find unity in being an American, an Arab American, South Asian American and American Muslim.

In my community, there is a situation going on that preceded this tragedy. A Pakistani woman lost her life through some unfortunate incident in a store. We came together with that community because we want justice. We respect civil rights, but we want to find out what happened to that woman. We are going to continue that fight and that unity.

In Houston, Texas, I believe we are going to share on Sunday afternoon as well with a community forum to have people come together and talk about how we are united and not how we are divided. So I again want to thank the distinguished gentleman from Michigan, and I also want to acknowledge the ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary, one of the original cosponsors, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), who likewise offers very strong support for this resolution.

It is important that we pass this tonight. I am sorry that it is at 5 or 10 minutes to 1 a.m., but what this resolution will allow us to do is to go back and encourage and push our local fathers and mothers to ensure that the governments of our communities, the people of our community understand what being American is all about. I thank the gentleman again for his leadership on this. Each of us must be soldiers and, with this message, go back to convey to our communities that we will not accept this kind of intolerance.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague for her eloquent statement.

Mr. Speaker, under my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER), who I have worked with on a number of these issues over the years.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I think it is important for all of us in this body and of our country that today, as we get to the business of designing our counterattack against savagery that has been unleashed against our country, that we take this time to ensure that the rage that is felt throughout our country does not take us in the same evil direction that we plan to fight.

It is very easy to do. We understand that. Because as we are fighting a group of fanatical terrorists, it is very easy for Americans to lose sight that people who perhaps are Muslim in their faith, and those people who are responsible for the attack may well and probably were Muslims, to generalize in that all Muslims would be just a crime against our own citizens and against innocent people.

Our greatest strength as a Nation is that we are a people who recognize that we are of all races and of all religions. This was evident at the National Cathedral we had all faiths represented there, including Islam. And if we break that strength, we are actually weakening ourselves. We as a people do not want to compromise that policy and that strength of our country, which is that we are of all races and all religions. We are hand-in-hand joined together by a love of liberty and a commitment to each other.

United States. That means us, and us now includes many Muslim fellow citizens. And they are heartbroken, as we are, that what has happened.

Just one thought. And I will be very quick because I know other people want to express this. Bin Laden wants us to alienate all the Muslims of the world, and especially to alienate our fellow Muslim Americans. That is part of this terrorist plot. Their strategy is that we, as Americans, will be so enraged and angry, and that we will strike out blindly and, without thinking, will alienate all of the Muslim world against us, including those Muslims who live as Americans next door to us.

We cannot be stupid enough to fall for his strategy. We must proceed in seeking revenge for those people, our fellow citizens that have lost their lives; and we must do it in a smart way and make sure that we do not alienate those Muslims. Instead, we need to recruit and reach out to Muslims throughout the world who are good and decent people, who are freedom-loving people, who will join us in a crusade to see that a new standard of morality is set for all of mankind. And that standard is that no noncombatants will ever, no people will ever tolerate an attack and murder of noncombatants in order to achieve their ends. In this goal, we can enlist the Muslim community and we should try to do so.

It would be a crime against our own goals if we in some way fell to bin Laden's strategy and tried to strike out blindly and, without thinking, all of the Muslims of the world against us. It is important that we pass this tonight.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, before I yield to my two colleagues from California, who have done very good work in this area, I want to yield, under my reservation of objection, to one of the leaders of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (Mr. Wu), the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. Wu).

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding to me, and I thank him for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor of this House.

Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I have received troubling reports of incidents involving south Asians being accosted, accused. Now, grief and anger are very, very understandable this week. We have been grievously attacked. Grief and anger are understandable reactions; but we must stand...
Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it is beyond my possible understanding how in America isolated incidents that have happened, could happen if we really view what those same people would like to have us do. We do not know who perpetrated this crime for sure. We think it may be Osama bin Laden or his allies. We do not know if Osama bin Laden is backed completely by Iraq or by other groups. We are not sure where the money comes from.

It is my personal wish, and I believe this body's wish, to find out; and once we find out, we eradicate the capability of those people who struck us so viciously once and for all. That is a reasonable response, and I believe America wants to make that response.

But we cannot make that response with clean hands if in fact we use the opportunity of this disaster to seek revenge against others in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot explain hate, and I would not try. What I would like to do for a moment is just share something from my own youth.

When I was in high school, I worked for Rabbi Kasen in Cleveland Heights. I was in a predominantly Jewish neighborhood, which is not bad for an Arab kid from Cleveland, and I got one of the best jobs a kid could get, I was in charge of the rabbit. I did not know much about the rabbit, but over the years as I would return the car at the end of the evening back to his home rather than where I picked up the poultry, I would learn a little more and a little more about the bunny.

By the time I was done working for him, I had discovered that his entire family had been wiped out in the Holocaust. He bore a tattoo on his arm, and he was a Holocaust survivor. But I discovered something else, something more important that I think everyone in America has to understand when we look at these acts of violence.

He was a man of God because he bore hatred towards no one, including those who had so unjustly taken his family and his family's life. Instead, he felt pity for them because they would know no salvation, they would know no rest. They would be the recipients of only evil forever after, while he would go on doing his little duty of running a small shop in Cleveland Heights. He would run a little shop and he would raise his children.

That lesson is a lesson America has to understand. We cannot let our grievances, no matter how great, turn into an act of violence. America has a right to respond to those who would hurt us and prevent them from doing it in the future, but we can only do that with our heads held high if we in America take the lead that Rabbi Kasen taught me as a boy, and do not seek to strike out against those who have done wrong; but rather, in fact, do not do what they did because only by, as Christians say, by turning the other cheek, will we have clean hands to seek the proper outcome, which is justice for the acts done against us.

This resolution is important, and I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. BONIOR).

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, in this House at 1 in the morning that as we send out some powerful messages what has happened over the last few days, that we do not forget to send this message as well.

This resolution is important, and I thank the gentleman from Michigan and all those who drafted this resolution. It is important because, as we know, a house divided cannot stand. We have demonstrated tremendous resolve in this Congress in the last few days, issuing resolutions which we have committed this country and our young men and women to things that perhaps we will not want to think about as days pass, but we have done it in unanimous votes or near-unanimous votes.

This weekend those messages, I think it is appropriate that one of the messages that is sent will be a message to all Americans that we will stand united, that we are not a house divided, and we want everyone to know that within our house that we call America, our neighbors deserve to be treated equally, whether the individual is of Arab-American descent, whether South Asian American, whether American Muslim, we are all Americans and every one of us deserves to be part of that house united.

I believe it is so important that we conclude this day's session by giving not just this message that we are prepared to take on with resolve those who chose to try to plunder this country, but also send the message that all of us recognize that this will be done as a team; that when we take on this task that Congress has set forth with the President, that it is recognizing that we are a fabric made up of so many different people.

This Sunday we will be holding memorial services for one of our Americans who perished on one of those flights that was destined to a life of infamy. We will be honoring Mrs. Tooran Bolooorehghi, who happens also to be Arab American.

I hope that when we have these services for all of the Americans who perished, we will remember that we are honoring them for their service, for their life, and much of all for the dignity that they showed in this country. It is time for us to recognize that the more we come together, the more we will be that house that not only is not divided, but is a house that will portray to the rest of the world what we can do when we bring the diversity of the world together.

Mr. Speaker, that is why at the end of the day, our resolve through these resolutions that we pass will demonstrate not only that we will defeat terrorism, but that we will bring the world together, because in America we have proven it makes no difference being hyphenated as an American or not, we will come together.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) and all of my colleagues who have taken the time after a very long week to say to all of our American brothers and sisters, we stand together with them in this task, and we will prove to them when they decided to come to America, they were right.
Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I have a special responsibility to speak tonight. I represent Bainbridge Island just west of Seattle. It is full of great people, and it is a great place to live. In early 1942, the United States Government herded up some American citizens of Bainbridge Island and marched them down to a dock and put them on a ferry boat and put them in camps.

I think the Congressman from that district owes it to the people now who are feeling the human passion and anger that is very understandable, to urge this country not to repeat, or even its private citizens, to repeat those kinds of mistakes.

I also have a responsibility tonight to speak in favor of this, because in my district some knuckle-head defaced a mosque in Lynnwood, Washington. Near my district, an armed man was arrested yesterday threatening to burn down a mosque. The child of my staffer’s sister had to be taken out of day-care because somebody phoned in a bomb threat due to the heritage of the folks at the day-care center. I do not think those acts are American.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell the American act. Today I asked one of my staff to go to that mosque in Lynnwood, Washington and talk to the people. By happenstance, when he drove up to the mosque, there were about 50 cars that drove up loaded with foodstuffs and flowers and Christians who had come from their churches to tell that mosque that that was not an American way and not consistent with religious liberty and our brotherhood in this country. That was an American thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say I am proud of some things that are going on in my district, too. Let us tell the people who are angry about this, and I understand anger. Tomorrow morning I am going to call two of my constituents whose son was lost in the Pentagon. I understand passion and sorrow and anger.

Let me echo the sentiments expressed earlier by the gentleman from California about the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. GOODLATTE). We have not been here for some 5 years, there is no one that has advocated for justice, for human rights as the gentleman who will be sorely missed in this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Washington indicated, it is a righteous anger. It is a righteous anger, almost in the Biblical sense of that term. Our challenge now, and truly I suggest the test of our democracy is to respond in a manner that is firm, that is clear, that is resolute and is just, and that befits a great Nation. And that not just merely respects our ideals but honors our ideals. I believe that we are doing that right now.

I have never been as proud of serving in this Chamber as I am at this very moment. So many Members have stayed, and we are all tired. We are all weary. It has been an extraordinarily emotional week for all of us. But this truly is a proud moment. Now I think it is critical that we remind ourselves and our fellow citizens that we must never confuse that righteous anger with hate. They are different.

Earlier tonight, both the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas, and the Democratic leader, the gentleman from Missouri, observed with great eloquence that America is great because America is good. That is true. We rightly claim a unique moral voice among the family of nations. That is why, despite the imperfections that were alluded to by the gentleman from Texas in his remarks earlier, America represents the hopes and dreams of a world that truly yearns for peace, for freedom and for justice. Hatred has no place in America. Hatred had no place in America in the aftermath of the outbreak of World War II. And it has no place in America tonight. Hatred is an attack on and an insult to our values and our moral authority. Those who committed the atrocities that stunned the Nation represent the face of hatred. We can never yield to hate. For if we do, they will have robbed us, not just of our innocence but our values and our ideals and everything that this country is about.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague for a beautiful statement.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan for yielding and for his leadership in bringing forth this resolution which I strongly support, and I do so for several reasons. First, I represent a district from rural areas and smaller cities. We do not have large numbers of Arab Americans in my district. But perhaps that is all the more reason to support it. Imagine living in an area where you have to come experience the freedom and democracy and economic opportunity and live there. There are few other people with whom you might identify based upon your religion or your ethnic heritage. It is all the more important that we strike a blow for that very freedom, that very principle in all parts of our country. Second, this is the founding principle upon which our country was founded. People fled all parts of the world to come here to experience religious freedom and freedom from tyranny. And so many of the people who have come here from the Middle Eastern lands and other lands with a Muslim heritage have done so because others in those lands have mistreated them and have not lived by the principles that we espouse in this country.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I believe that the very success of the endeavor that we are now undertaking, which I think will be a long-term endeavor, to root out terrorism and to respond to those who have caused this hateful, devastating, despicable disaster that has taken place in this country. If we are truly going to be successful, we have to send the message that we are not directing this at anybody because of their religious beliefs or because of their ethnic heritage, we are directing this against terrorists. If we do not have that message, not only with Arab Americans in this country but with those of that background across the entire world, we will face a far greater maelstrom as we go forward.

We must convince the people of the world that we are directing this as peace-loving people against those who would take away that peace and that freedom from us. If we do not convey that message, then we will be the longer in struggling with the crisis that we face today. So I am very, very strongly resolved with the President and with every Member of this body that we are going to very forcefully respond to the terrorists who caused this despicable act. I also think we have to at the same time send forth a message that we are doing this as freedom-loving Americans who respect all other Americans and are not doing this directed at anybody from anywhere in the world simply because of their heritage or religious beliefs.
Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan, and I want to say what an honor it has been to work with the gentleman through my two terms. I have many concerns relating to this issue which is before us. The gentleman and I share many common beliefs, values, and constituencies.

I am privileged to have one of the largest constituencies of Arab-Americans and Muslims and Arab-Christians and Asian-Indian constituencies in the United States; and I know, as has been recited tonight, that we are talking about Americans, our brothers and sisters, individuals whose sons and daughters serve this country; individuals who have built many of our communities; individuals who provide jobs for many of our families; individuals who own and operate many of our small businesses; and we have individuals who represent citizens in the community; individuals who believe in our Constitution; individuals who believe in our way of life; individuals who help describe what is good about America.

So it is appropriate that we are here past 1 o'clock in the morning to make a statement about what America represents, about what America stands for, about the principles which bring us to this House.

Now, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) has been in this House much longer than I have, but I will say, as someone who has had the privilege of serving in this House for almost 5 years now, every day that I come into this Chamber and I walk along this counter, I see carved in the counter certain principles expressed in single words. Starting from my left, you see the word “peace,” and then next to it carved in the wood is the word “liberty,” and right here in the center is the word “freedom.” And then next to it carved in wood, the word “justice,” and right around the corner, the word “union.”

These principles literally physically frame our debate every minute that we are here on the floor of the House of Representatives. You cannot miss them. They look out at us every moment; and by reference, they look out at America.

Arab-Americans are our brothers and our sisters. We have the responsibility to stand up for them, just as in the last few hours we took a stand on behalf of those poor souls who perished by claiming the right to pursue justice on their behalf, because we do not need any more victims of our own making. America does not need to incur any more losses on our soil, and we do not need to incur it at the hands of American citizens turning against U.S. citizens, turning against our own people.

So tonight we plead for tolerance.

Now, tonight all across America people stood outside their homes and held candles in the darkness. Those candles were held to send out the light of hope in the darkness of despair.

The previous night thousands of people surrounded the Reflecting Pool between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, and a ring of light framed the water, reflecting the stars above.

We know that light always shines in the darkness. That is the promise of so many of our holy scriptures. We know the light of justice shines through the darkness of prejudice. We know the light of liberty shines through the dark hold of emotional, spiritual, and physical chains. We know the light of peace shines through the darkness of terrorism. We know the light of union shines through the darkness of division.

My country tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing; long may our land be bright, with freedom’s holy light, protect us by thy might, great God, our king.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to commend our majority leader, and especially the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR), our minority whip, for his sponsorship of this important resolution. House Concurrent Resolution 227, now before this body for consideration.

Mr. Speaker, I realize it is 1:30 in the morning, but this is certainly a very important issue that must be addressed by this institution. Certainly not taking anything away from the thrust of all the energies and the efforts that are made, not only by our President but by the Congress, concerning the tragedy that has just taken place in the past couple of days, but I must say that the United States Congress must express its firm opposition and strong condemnation of those in our country who advocate hatred, bigotry and racism against our fellow Americans whose cultural roots are from the Middle East, from South Asia, and especially our fellow American citizens who are members of the Muslim faith.

In my desire in echoing the sentiments of my friend from Massachusetts (Mr. G. W. Pinto) I would like to express my sincere appreciation and commendation to you, our minority whip, for your leadership and certainly the outstanding service that you have rendered to our Nation. I, too, will commend to the American people, the white Anglo-Saxon face, but just being here as a fellow colleague and a Member of this institution.

I will always remember the gentleman as a true warrior, who has almighty God, this Congress, and everyone who really means, the principles of human rights, and certainly the rights of working men and women all over America and their struggles and efforts in making ends meet and providing for their children.

I thank the gentleman.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU), as chairman of our Asia-Pacific Congressional Caucus expressing some concerns about the hate crimes that are now evident throughout some of our communities in America simply because our fellow Americans are Arab-Americans.

We have taken also an understanding of what happened after the Oklahoma City bombing, and what was the first reaction by our local and Federal officials? It seems to me that all Arab-Americans were profiled. This is certainly not in good standing as far as I am concerned as far as what America should really be about.

I thank my good friends, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RASH), the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), and the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA). I certainly appreciate the comments made earlier about this very important issue.

In my youth, Mr. Speaker, I lived among people from various different cultural backgrounds. This, of course, was in the State of Hawaii, where you get to appreciate what it means to be going or living alongside or being with a student who happens to be of Filipino ancestry or Japanese or Chinese or Korean or Pacific Islander, or even those who are African-Americans.

But I am always reminded, and seemingly also, Mr. Speaker, in the past couple of days, that a great many of number of our colleagues of the House have always used the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, as a reminder, and in a very similar fashion, of what happened in the past couple of days.

Mr. Speaker, there is a very strong distinction that I want to share with my colleagues about what happened to Americans who happened to be of Japanese ancestry. The fact that it was our government that took some 100,000 Japanese Americans, born and raised here in this Nation, confiscated their properties, took everything that belonged to them, took them to what was known as “relocation” camps. I call them concentration camps, and, yet, despite all the bigotry that was heaped upon the Japanese in World War II, there were some 6,700 Nisei soldiers who volunteered from all over the country, and especially from the territory of Hawaii, that organized two combat units known as the 100th Battalion of the 442nd infantry combat groups, and because of the racism President Roosevelt felt, as it was also with General Marshall, that maybe in their spirit of really wanting to defend the enemies of our Nation,
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sent them to Europe, which they did, they went to Europe. We want to share with my colleagues the results of their value and the courage they displayed in defending this flag, despite the fact that their parents and their brothers and sisters were being placed in concentration camps throughout America. Mr. Speaker, 18,000 individual declarations were given to these men, who died and fought for America, the Japanese Americans. Over 9,000 Purple Hearts were awarded. The 100th Battalion was sometimes known as the Purple Heart Battalion.

Mr. Speaker, 314 percent, the casualty percentage of those Japanese Americans who fought so bravely on behalf of our Nation. Some 562 Silver Stars, medals, were honored. Ironically, only one Medal of Honor was given to these Japanese Americans and, the 100th Battalion, the 100th. Was this not the COCHRAN introduced a bill to review and, thank God, in 1996 when Senator ically, only one Medal of Honor was given, despite the fact that some 52 Distinguished Service Crosses were given to these Japanese Americans.

But in view of the recent review that was made, and for which I am very grateful, the record has now been changed to 21 Medals of Honor were given to these Japanese Americans, including the distinguished Senator from Hawaii, Senator Inouye. I wanted to share this with my colleagues because I do not know if I would have been able to do what they did in World War II. Put yourself in their shoes. After spilling your guts out and being wounded and all that you have done for your country and you had to come back from Europe looking for your parents and brothers and sisters in a concentration camp. I do not know if I could do that, Mr. Speaker. But these men did to defend the honor of our Nation.

I say this with sincerity, because I want my colleagues to know that we are now at the shadow of getting the same type of attitude, the same type of concern of hatred and bigotry towards people who are totally innocent from what has happened. So just because it was the Japanese military that bombed Pearl Harbor, I sincerely hope, and I am sure that my colleagues will agree with me, that this should not be the case given to our fellow Arab Americans throughout this country.

Yes, we should say never again that this should ever happen to our country, but always it seems that this happens all the time. That this should not be known as a Pacific American or a Chinese American or an African American. I never hear anybody saying I am a French American or British American or German American. Why is it that we have to do that? That this is not French America, this is not Russian America, this is the United States of America. We are a united America. The strength of our Nation, Mr. Speaker, lies in its diversity, and I think this is what makes us so unique. This is what makes this country so powerful and so much a great example before all of the nations of the world, what truly freedom means and what democracy is all about.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his very eloquent and passionate statement. I appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD).

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding me this time. I thank those who have spoken so eloquently tonight on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, in the immediate aftermath of the collision of those jets with the World Trade Center, the President of the United States addressed the people of this great country and he said, America is being tested, and he assured us that we would pass the test. We will pass that test. But we will pass it only if we pass it with compassion and unity and strength of all our diverse peoples, from all faiths, all national origins, all ethnicities, all united as one united people in this great United States of America.

These agents of aggression, of hatred against Arab Americans, are precisely the opposite of what makes this country great and what makes this country worth defending. We must stand united. We must unite to reject these acts of hatred, because we can only conquer terrorism with unity, and ultimately with love for our fellow human beings.

I rise in profound support, and I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his initiative and for all of those who have spoken on this resolution.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, under my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I too want to stand to thank the gentleman for introducing what I think is a very important and critical resolution. I just wanted to reflect for a second. I know the hour is late, but I will be brief.

When the hostages were taken in Iran, I can remember clearly, there were elected officials that began to want to introduce resolutions to ask students because they were from Iran, Iranian Americans, to actually not be able to be teaching assistants or to act as teaching assistants that whole fever erupted across the country. I can remember a scene in a restaurant where there were Iranian Americans, and in fact, it was in Ohio at the time, that people were home. That's the feelings and thoughts have to be I think for us to realize that we need to learn our lesson and look back from what happened at that time.

Also, I just wanted to reflect on the heartbreak to see that hatred of people of Arab American descent and some of the comments that are made to them. It is incumbent upon us, and that is what we are doing tonight to spread this word, and to ask Americans that feel this passion for fairness to talk to other Americans when they make a comment that is a broad brush.

I want to close by saying that I lived in Iran in 1978. I have been on the other side of this type of situation, and I was there during the turbulence during the fall of the Shah. At that time I remember Iranians who told other Iranians not to make the comments because we were obviously American in our look. I want to thank those people that helped thousands of us to not have the harassment. I have been in those shoes, in a sense, and we have to just think as Americans, Mr. Speaker, put ourselves in the shoes of these Americans of Arab descent, and I think this message will go out. I hope the media gives it credit.

I say to the gentleman, keep hammering in, that our country was founded on fairness and freedom that has been so eloquently expressed here tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for something good and right for the people of this country.
peoples and tribes so that you may come to know one another," so that we may come to know one another. 

As leaders and as Members of Congress, take the message that we articulated so well this evening and spread that throughout our country over these next days and weeks and months, I think we will have done a good service. When the world watched our national prayer service earlier today, as many alluded to in their speeches on the floor today, they heard the healing words of many faiths: a Muslim Imam, a Jewish rabbi, and Christian clergy, Mr. Speaker. These Americans, like the rest of the world, all worship God in their own way, but the common faith they share, what we have witnessed in the torrent of goodness this week, the neighbors helping neighbors, strangers helping strangers, is that hate can never conquer our Nation's spirit. That is the common faith that they share, that hate can never conquer our Nation's spirit.

Mr. CONYERS, Mr. Speaker, this week, thousands of people in New York and Washington lost their lives in a brutal assault on our Nation that was a calculated strike at the heart of our freedom and national unity. Millions of Arab Americans, South Asian Americans and American Muslims around the country have shared our sorrow and outrage at Tuesday's terrorist attacks. They have donated their blood, their money, their food and their time to the rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Now these same individuals who have mourned and prayed with us have come under suspicion by their neighbors and the threat of additional violence in the form of hate crimes at their homes, schools, community centers and mosques. As a part of our effort to protect America from violence, we must unequivocally condemn the attacks against these groups and pledge to protect their civil rights and civil liberties.

My district is home to one of the largest Arab and Muslim communities in the country. It is vital that we distinguish the beliefs of these Americans from the perpetrators of Tuesday's violence, and recognize that Arab Americans, South Asians and American Muslims share our values and contribute significantly to our communities. If we fail to do so, then we will have seriously undermined freedom—the same principle we find ourselves vigorously defending in the wake of Tuesday's attacks.

All Members should stand to condemn any acts of bigotry, violence or discrimination against Arab Americans, South Asians and American Muslims and call upon Americans of every faith and heritage to stand together in this time of national crisis. We must pledge to every faith and heritage to stand together in this time of national crisis. We must pledge to prevent, but we must reinstate the authority for the Attorney General to continue building the Department against terrorists.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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AMENDING IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT TO PROVIDE PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR ADMISSION OF "S" VISA NON-IMMIGRANTS

Mr. GEKAS, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 1424) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide permanent authority for the admission of "S" visa non-immigrants, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) for a comment on the bill.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, this issue comes before us at a very appropriate time. It was about 2 days ago, maybe 3 days ago now considering the time is after midnight, authority ran out for our government, through the Attorney General, to be able to bring in alien witnesses for cases involving terrorists, of all things; meaning that when the Attorney General, the Justice Department, and the intelligence communities of our government were able to mount a case against terrorists, so appropriate in view of the events of the past week, that they could bring in people with special information under what was called the "S" visa, a special program to permit aliens to come in for the specific purpose of providing information and testifying, as it were, in these cases constructed by our Justice Department against terrorists. The authority has run out, and it ran out almost immediately after the events took place in the Pentagon and in New York. So we have to reinstate it as fast as possible. That is why we are here tonight, because now it becomes even more urgent that we be in a position to be able to authorize the Attorney General to continue building the cases against these new terrorists now and others yet to come, we hope not, which will we do everything we can to prevent, but we must reinstate the authority for these special visas, these "S" visas that would permit this extra arm of law enforcement to work its will.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Continuing to reserve my reservation of objection, Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman for bringing this important initiative to the floor of the House tonight, particularly with the great need that we have. It is obvious that we are in a time deep of sorrow and Congress continues and will continue to seek all possible avenues which would help provide assistance to