beleaguered people across this globe repeatedly.

Year in and year out, our Members from this Chamber make that trek to show that America knows and America cares. I look across this country and I see the heart of the American people that reaches out to all the world for freedom, dignity, justice, respect.

I look across this Nation's history and I find a legacy of courage, commitment, sacrifice. This Nation has lent its heroes to the cause of liberty on behalf of the nations of all the world time and time again.

Without this Nation's leadership, there would be no United Nations. Without this Nation's participation, the United Nations could not endure to this day. The United Nations expels this Nation, the greatest Nation in the history of the world, for the defense and protection of human rights from the very commission whose only sacred purpose is to be the guardian and the protector of human rights and in its stead places what can only be judged the world's worst perpetrator.

The horrors of Sudan will break your heart, the slavery. Slavery, we thought perhaps that was gone from this globe; it should be gone. The religious persecution, the murders, the torture that happens in Sudan should be the object of investigation of this commission and should be the object of this commission's scorn, yet they put this nation, this unholy nation, on that commission.

Yes. We should be outraged even more for that inclusion than for the exclusion of this great Nation. And Libya, scarcely any better.

My colleagues say what should be our response? Our response should be that the taxpayers, the heroes of this great Nation who care so much, will not provide as a matter of patronage support to an institution that makes a mockery out of the concern for human rights and makes of itself a farce in that theater.

Mr. Chairman, yes, we are here right today doing the right thing. And I implore my colleagues, if my colleagues believe in the cause of liberty, freedom, safety, security, respect and decency, vote yes for this amendment. Send the world a message, America cares and America dares to stand up for any lost soul, beleaguered and tortured in any part of the world at any time and even in the case of the most callous affront that I have seen from this United Nations in my lifetime.

Ms. McKINNEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, George Bush said it well when he said that we do not need to do this. A superpower pays its bills. A superpower leads by example. A superpower does not cry when it does not get its way and then go and take all the marbles. Already this tit-for-tat mentality has resulted in the Bush administration canceling administration appointments with visiting members of the European parliament.

I met with them yesterday and I am sure that they enjoyed meeting with me but I am not the same as meeting with the administration on very, very important and critical issues that pertain to the relationship between the United States and Europe, that very relationship that we are talking about today.

Those members of parliament are going to go back to Europe, and they are going to write a report that is critical of the United States. So, yet again, we are going to involve ourselves in this tit-for-tat mentality that has the potential of spiralling out of control into the absurd.

The last thing we need is for Congress to add fuel to the fire. We need to pay our bills. We need to participate in the United Nations. We need to help change those things that need to be corrected, and we need to do it through diplomacy not by going back on our word.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment and agree with the Bush administration that the last thing we need it do is withhold funds that the United Nations severely needs that will result in us going back on our word.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH).

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for bringing up this important bill.

I agree with my colleagues in the condemnation of what happened at the United Nations at the hands and behest of China, Cuba, and other abusers of human rights. It is remarkable that the values of Sudan are now replacing the values of the United States at the United Nations in the human rights matters; a country that has already killed 2 million of their own occupants; a country that sells children to slavery for as little as $23; a country that, of course, crucifies children as young as 12 years old, 13 years old, 14 years old that refused to convert to Islam; a country this year that is holding back food aid unless people convert to the religion of their choice.

The only thing I find humorous are the excuses for expulsion of the United States, Kyoto, family planning, SDI. Come on, give me a break. This is all about the fact that the United States has dared to stand down China, dared to stand down Sudan, Libya, other human rights abusers.

That is all it is about. That is why we are out and that why is why France, who has constantly played to Third World dictators and tyrants got the most votes. Maybe that is not politically correct to say. It is the truth though.

Chris Matthews last week said in response to this that the U.S. practically invented human rights. I know that sounds arrogant maybe to some of our friends in Europe who were offended, and they are going to go back and write reports about how they are offended at the United States.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Chairman, the United Nations Economic and Social Council, ECOSOC, took an action again that raises grave doubts about what kind of organization it is.

During the last 6 days, editorial writers all across this country been working overtime to try and explain away the outrageous vote to deprive the U.S. of its seat on the UN Human Rights Commission. As always, they are saying that it was the Kyoto treatment or the criminal court or somehow if we just paid our arrearages a little faster the problem would be solved. These are bogus, false pretenses, Mr. Chairman.

The real reason why we have been thrown off the U.N. Human Rights Commission is because they want to silence what is clearly the strongest voice on the Commission in favor of human rights. The U.S. has insisted that the Commission tell the honest and unvarnished truth about human rights violations the world over. Some of the other nations on the commission, such as China, Cuba, Vietnam, Malaysia, Libya, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, and now Sudan, have problems with the truth—especially at it pertains to human rights.

Mr. Chairman, instead of excluding countries from the U.N. Human Rights Commission because they are too strong on human rights, the U.N. should be concerned about excluding governments that routinely engage in torture, extrajudicial killings, rape as an instrument of terror, forced abortions, sterilization, and other kinds of discriminations.

I urge a yes vote on the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, last year the Congress voted to resolve the dispute over so-called "United Nations arrearages". The agreement was simple: we would pay almost all of the disputed amount, provided the United Nations would agree to treat the United States more fairly when it came to dues, peacekeeping assessments, and other issues—and provided the UN would also take concrete steps to put its own house in order.

Then the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) took an action that again raises grave doubts about what kind of an organization it is. During the last six days, Mr. Chairman, editorial writers have been working overtime trying to explain away the outrageous vote to deprive the United States of the seat it has held since 1947 on the U.N. Human Rights Commission. As always, the central theme of these editorials is to blame America first. If only we had ratified the Kyoto Convention, or the CEDAW agreement, or the International Criminal Court. Or if only we had paid those disputed arrearages a little quicker. If only we had not been so "unilateral" which is the most bogus of all. Then perhaps we would have stayed in the good graces of ECOSOC and kept our seat on the Human Rights Commission.