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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE
WORKFORCE

March 18, 2011

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

Dear Speaker Boehner:

As you know, the President announced this afternoon that he was authorizing the use of military force with respect to Libya. This use of military force was made in support of yesterday's vote of the UN Security Council, but without any Congressional debate or involvement whatsoever. Indeed, the President's announcement coincided with the start of a week-long district work period of both houses of Congress.

A commitment of U.S. forces should not occur under these circumstances. As then-Senator Obama wrote, in 2007, "The President does not have power under the Constitution to unilaterally authorize a military attack in a situation that does not involve stopping an actual or imminent threat to the nation." I agree.

I strongly urge you, pursuant to Section 2 of H. Con. Res. 30, to bring Congress back into session to debate an authorization to use military force with respect to Libya.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress